

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3720.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1899.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The SIXTH MEETING OF THE SESSION will be held on WEDNESDAY NEXT, February 15, at 32, SACKVILLE STREET, PICCADILLY. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m. Antiquities will be exhibited, and the following Paper read—
‘The Pans,’ by Prof. McKENNY HUGHES.
GEO. PATRICK, Esq., A.R.I.B.A. } Hon.
Rev. H. J. DUKINFIELD ASTLEY, M.A. } Secs.

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HUBERT HALL, Director and Hon. Sec.
115, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.

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The NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY will be held at 22, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, on WEDNESDAY, February 15, at 8 p.m., when the following Papers will be read, viz—
1. ‘The Tar-laby Story (Variants from Central Africa),’ by Miss A. WERNER.
2. ‘The Powers of Evil in the Hebrides,’ by Miss GOODRICH FRERE.
F. A. MILNE, Secretary.
11, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C., February 3, 1899.

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Following Days, at 1 o'clock precisely, the HARDWICKE PAPERS and
MANUSCRIPTS, removed from the Deed Room, in the Temple Hall,
the Property of the Right Hon. the EARL of HARDWICKE.

May be viewed two days prior. Catalogues may be had, price One
shilling each.

Illuminated and other Manuscripts and valuable Printed Books
from the Libraries of Mrs. ALFRED MORRISON, the late
R. W. WILBRAHAM, Esq., and others.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE
will SELL by AUCTION, at their House, No. 13, Wellington
Street, Strand, W.C., on MONDAY, February 27, and Five Following
Days, at 1 o'clock precisely, ILLUMINATED and other MANUSCRIPTS
and valuable PRINTED BOOKS, including SELECTIONS from the
LIBRARIES of R. W. WILBRAHAM, Esq. Mrs. ALFRED MORRISON,
and others, comprising an unusual number of Ancient Illuminated
Manuscripts and Paper, comprising Books of Hours, Offices,
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Law Library of S. J. WILDE, Esq., of the Inner Temple,
Barrister-at-Law, and other Property.

MESSRS. HODGSON will SELL by AUCTION,
at their Rooms, 115, Chancery Lane, W.C. on THURSDAY,
February 16, at 1 o'clock, valuable LAW BOOKS, including the
LIBRARY of S. J. WILDE, Esq., of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law,
Street, including Law Reports, New Series, complete to 1898.
123 vols.—The Revised Reports. 33 vols.—A Complete Series of Scotch
Appeal Cases, 55 vols.—The Times Reports, 11 vols.—Morrell's
Bankruptcy Reports, 10 vols.—Reports in the Vice-Chancellor's and
Holl Court by Drury, Small, Giffard, Kay, Johnson, Hemming, Miller,
Bevan, &c.—Reports in King's and Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and
Chancery.—House of Lords Cases—The Law Reports Statutes, 1860 to
1890, 25 vols.—Civil Engineers' Minutes of Proceedings, 1878 to 1897,
79 vols.—useful Text-Books, comprising Taylor on Evidence, 2 vols.—
Mande and Pollock on Merchant Shipping, 2 vols.—Maclean on ditto
—Lindley on Partnership, &c., 2 vols.—Jarman on Wills, 2 vols.—Bythe-
wood and Jarman's Conveyancing, 8 vols.—Journals of the Lords and
Commons, 143 vols.—Parliamentary Papers, Reports, &c.
To be viewed, and Catalogues had.

Valuable and Extensive Collection of Works on Engineering,
Electricity, Physics, Mathematics, and other Sciences—
Medical and Miscellaneous Books, &c.

MESSRS. HODGSON will SELL by AUCTION,
at their Rooms, 115, Chancery Lane, W.C. on WEDNESDAY,
February 22 and Two Following Days, at 1 o'clock, the valuable
LIBRARY of an EMINENT FOREIGN SCIENTIST, comprising Long
Runs of the Engineer—Journal, Reports, and Industries—American
Machinist and Engineer—Le Génie Civil—Electrical Review—Elec-
trician—Electrical Engineer—La Lumière Électrique (about 1,000 vols.
18 sets from 1870 to 1894)—Philosophical Magazine and Transactions—
Nature—Science—Proceedings of the Royal and Geographical Societies
—Journal of the Franklin Institute—American Journal of Science
—United States' Patents relating to Electricity—Dingler's Poly-
technisches Journal, 24 vols.—Annalen der Physik, 63 vols.—Atti della
Accademia dei Lincei, 24 vols.—Revista G. neral de Marina, 2 vols., &c.,
the whole in excellent condition, and mostly in neat bindings, to which
are added several Collections of Medical and Miscellaneous Books.
To be viewed, and Catalogues had.

WILLIS'S ROOMS, KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W.

A large and valuable Collection of Works of Art, including
Antique Glass, Decorative China, fine Bronzes and Metal
Work, Decorative Furniture; also a Set of four very fine old
Brussels Panels of Tapestry, the Property of a GENTLE-
MAN.

MESSRS. ROBINSON & FISHER will SELL at
their Rooms, as above, on THURSDAY, February 23,
and Following Day, at 1 o'clock, precisely each Day, OLD ENGLISH and
FRENCH FURNITURE, including Commodes—Secretaires—Regulators
and Cartel Clocks—a Pair of very fine Oriental powder blue Bottles—
Old Venetian and German Glass—fine Old Lustre Ware—a quantity of
Metal Work—Clocks—Candelabra—Plagues—Wood Carvings and
Carved—several beautiful old Limoges enamelled Caskets of rare
quality—a very fine Sixteenth-Century Milanese Key—a chased Sword
Hilt—Dresden, Chelsea, Wedgwood, and other China—and a large
quantity of Decorative Items.
May be viewed the day prior, and Catalogues had.

SHREWSBURY.—On WEDNESDAY, March 1, at half-past 12 prompt,
SALE of a PRIVATE COLLECTION of 72 PICTURES by CELE-
BRATED ARTISTS, including Gainsborough (2), Sir Edwin
Landseer (1), T. Cresswick (2), Sidney Cooper (2), W. C. Stanfield (2),
Vicat Cole (3), George Armfield (2), T. Faed (1), Gainsborough (1),
J. Constable (1), David Roberts (1), W. F. Preston, F.R.S., and others.

MESSRS. W. HALL, WATERIDGE & OWEN
have received instructions to offer the whole by AUCTION for
ABSOLUTE SALE (by order of the Executors of the late HARRY C.
WINFIELD, Esq., of Fairfield, Liverpool), at their Mart, Shrewsbury,
on WEDNESDAY, March 1.

Catalogues on application fourteen days prior.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS
respectfully give notice that they will hold the following
SALES by AUCTION in their Great Rooms, King Street, St. James's
Square, the Sales commencing at 1 o'clock precisely—

On MONDAY, February 13, the valuable COL-
LECTION OF PORCELAIN, OBJECTS OF ART, and DECORATIVE
FURNITURE, the Property of a LADY.

On TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, February
14 and 15, a valuable COLLECTION of ENGRAVINGS, after the
WORKS of GEORGE MORLAND, the Property of HENRY MILNER,
Esq.

On THURSDAY, February 16, a COLLECTION
of PORCELAIN, OBJECTS OF ART, and DECORATIVE FURNITURE,
the Property of a GENTLEMAN.

On FRIDAY, February 17, a valuable COLLEC-
TION OF OLD FRENCH and ENGLISH DECORATIVE FURNITURE
and OBJECTS OF ART, the Property of a GENTLEMAN; a PAIR of
LOUIS XVI. OPEN-WORK VASES OF IVORY and ORMOLO, the
Property of a LADY; and other important OBJECTS OF DECORATIVE
ART from Private Sources.

On SATURDAY, February 18, PICTURES and
DRAWINGS of Mrs. CATHERINE LACY, deceased.

On MONDAY, February 20, MODERN PIC-
TURES and DRAWINGS, the Property of a LADY, and others.

On TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, February
21 and 22, a PORTION of the DRAMATIC LIBRARY of a GENTLE-
MAN, comprising rare Dramatic Works—Lives of Actors and Actresses,
including Hawkins's Life of Edmund Kean, in 4 vols. folio, and
illustrated with 600 Portraits and Autograph Letters, Playbills, &c.,
moreover extra—Wilkinson's Theatrum Illustrata (Two Copies), illus-
trated with upwards of 200 Portraits and Drawings, Playbills, &c.,
various Editions of Shakespeare's Works, including Halliwell-Phillips's
Edition, 16 vols. folio, &c.

On TUESDAY, February 21, a COLLECTION of
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CONTENTS.

SIR ROBERT PEELE FROM HIS PRIVATE PAPERS	169
MR. MEREDITH'S POEMS	170
SIR JOHN COPE AND THE JACOBITES	172
MISS KINGSLEY'S WEST AFRICAN STUDIES	172
A NEW ESTIMATE OF PETRARCH	174
NEW NOVELS (The Love Story of Margaret Wynne; The Archdeacon; The Day of Temptation; John Bede's Wife; La Force; Le Talion; La Danseuse de Pompei)	174-175
GENEALOGICAL LITERATURE	175
TALES OF ADVENTURE	176
MILITARY LITERATURE	176
OUR LIBRARY TABLE—LIST OF NEW BOOKS	177-178
DRYDEN'S 'RELIGIO LAICI'; LAMB'S 'POETRY FOR CHILDREN'; THE PUBLISHING SEASON; THE STATUTE OF WINCHESTER, 1285; AN OLD STORY; THE RIGHT HON. CHRISTOPHER REDINGTON	179-180
LITERARY GOSSIP	181
SCIENCE—THE NATIVES OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA; SOCIETIES; MEETINGS NEXT WEEK; GOSSIP	182-184
FINE ARTS—ILLUSTRATED BOOKS; MINOR EXHIBITIONS; GOSSIP	184-185
MUSIC—JOSEPH JOACHIM; THE WEEK; GOSSIP; PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK	186-187
DRAMA—THE WEEK; GOSSIP	187-188

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Peel was not yet forty—but he had enjoyed more than sixteen years' experience as a busy and influential politician—when, at Canning's death, the Tory leadership in the House of Commons devolved upon him. He had been Under-Secretary for the Colonies in Perceval's last year and Chief Secretary for Ireland under Lord Liverpool, when his vigorous Protestantism won for him among Catholics the nickname of Orange Peel. Again under Lord Liverpool as Home Secretary, he had initiated the prison, police, and other reforms to which he afterwards gave effective shape, and, along with the Duke of Wellington, he had refused to serve under Canning and thus sanctioned the projects on foot for Catholic Emancipation. On Canning's death Wellington would at once have succeeded to the Premiership, with Peel as his right-hand man, had not King George IV. objected. As their friend Arbuthnot wrote on August 12th, 1827:—

"The truth is, the King in his heart hates the Duke, and he hates you, and like most kings he will try to surround himself with men of no name or power, because with such men he may do whatever he pleases."

Or, as Peel himself put it, five days later:—

"It is very natural in a man, and particularly when that man is a king, to hate another who declines to trust him."

Before five months were over, Lord Goderich's makeshift administration having been found unworkable, the king had to send for the duke, and, on the duke's insisting on Peel's co-operation, to place the management of affairs in their hands. Peel felt at starting that "the attempt to form a united Government on resistance to the claims of the Roman Catholics was perfectly hopeless," and he was not long in coming to the conclusion that, if Ireland was to be saved from civil war, the concession which he had quarrelled with Canning for favouring must be made, that it was necessary to choose "between different kinds and different degrees of evil," and that there was, "upon the whole, less of evil in making a decided effort to settle the Catholic question than in leaving it." Having arrived at this conclusion in the autumn of 1828, he proposed to resign his place in the Wellington Cabinet in order that it might be free to make a change less distasteful to some of his colleagues than to himself. But this arrangement was, of course, impracticable. Peel's presence in the Government and leadership of the House were indispensable if the change was to be made safely and promptly. Without his active support, moreover, as Wellington assured him, there was no prospect of the king's sanction being secured. Therefore he resolved to "sacrifice himself." In February, 1829, he wrote to Sir William Gregory:—

"I cannot let things remain as they are, that is, I mean, let a disunited Government, having neither concession nor restraint to propose, meet Parliament. I cannot advise the dissolution of the present Government, and the attempt to form an exclusive Protestant Government; from the perfect conviction that it will fail. Will I advise the King to take the only remaining course, I myself shrinking from the sacrifice and responsibility that it entails? Or will I remain in my post, setting an example of sacrifice to others, and abiding for myself the issue, be it what it may? I have chosen the last alternative, painful as it is to me. I may be wrong, but at any rate I am prepared to make sacrifices which will prove that I think I am right. I have felt it my duty to tender my immediate resignation of my seat to the University of Oxford, if they shall think fit to accept it."

And two months later to Sir Walter Scott:

"I wish you had been present at the Clare election, for no pen but yours could have done justice to that fearful exhibition of sobered and desperate enthusiasm. 'Be true' was the watchword which, uttered by a priest or an agitator, calmed in an instant 'the stormy wave of the multitude,' and seduced the freeholder from his allegiance to his Protestant landlord. We were watching the movements of tens of thousands of disciplined fanatics, abstaining from every excess and every indulgence, and concentrating every passion and feeling on one single object; with hundreds of police and soldiers, half of whom were Roman Catholics—that half, faithful and prepared, I have no doubt, to do their duty. But is it consistent with common prudence and common sense to repeat such scenes, and to incur such risks of contagion?"

Peel's dealing with the Catholic Emancipation question indicated his qualities as a statesman even more clearly than his abolition of the Corn Laws in 1846. In the latter case he merely carried to their logical issue views that he had

slowly arrived at, and as to the justice of which he had no doubts. In the former he deliberately surrendered his own convictions in furtherance of what he considered to be the interests of the State. It was the most courageous of his public acts, and the prelude to others which, easier to him, were not less beneficial to the nation he honestly desired to serve.

How little of an opportunist he was, in the usual sense of the term, is shown by his attitude towards the Reform Bill. Most of his objections to the Bill may now seem to have been founded on prejudice, though one was notably broad-minded:—

"He was against depriving working men of their share in the franchise. 'If you were establishing a perfectly new system of representation, would it be wise to exclude altogether the sympathies of this class? How much more unwise, when you find it possessed from time immemorial of the privilege, to take the privilege away, and to subject a great, powerful, jealous and intelligent mass of your population to the injury, ay, and to the stigma, of entire uncompensated exclusion?'"

Peel carried his opposition to the length of condemning the pusillanimity of the House of Lords in accepting it under the threat that, if the existing majority there remained obdurate, enough fresh peerages would be created to swamp them. If they yield to the threat, he said,

"the Government will have effected its object by the menace of an unconstitutional act. They will have gained the prize without incurring the odium and disgust of the crime. They will have established a precedent for future Governments, more tempting, more easily followed, and therefore more dangerous than would be the actual commission of a revolting act."

Peel's objections were more persistent than that of Wellington and others, who, after the crisis in May, 1832, were willing to produce a "moderate" Reform Bill of their own, and who, when he rendered that impossible by refusing to join them, passed the obnoxious measure, "in order," as they said, "to save his Majesty's personal honour as to the creation of peers." When Croker, in one of the many amusingly impertinent letters in these volumes, expostulated with Peel, he replied:—

"If I could be a 'waverer' as to the course which I should pursue in such a crisis as the present, I should, by the very act of wavering, prove that I was unfit for the crisis. I foresee that a Bill of Reform, including everything that is really important and really dangerous in the present Bill, must pass. For me individually to take the conduct of such a Bill, to assume the responsibility of the consequences which I have predicted as the inevitable result of such a Bill, would be, in my opinion, personal degradation to myself. I should now assume office for the purpose of carrying the measure to which up to the last moment I have been inveterately opposed."

"As there were two Pitts, one before, the other after, the French Revolution, so," Mr. Gladstone said to Mr. Parker, "there were two Peels, one before, the other after, Parliamentary Reform." Having failed in his fight against a measure he could not believe in, Peel loyally set himself to build up the Conservative party. "My object," he said in 1838,

"for some years past has been to lay the foundations of a great party which, existing in the House of Commons, and deriving its strength

from the popular will, should diminish the risk and deaden the shock of collisions between the two deliberative branches of the Legislature."

When the first Reformed Parliament opened in 1833 fewer than a fourth of it were Tories. "The Cobbetites, and Humeites, and Irish blackguards," as Lord Mahon called them, were more numerous, and it was proposed that the few Tories, sitting on the cross-benches, should "leave the Government in face of their real and tremendous enemies, and not keep up the empty semblance of a Conservative balance in this mob assembly." Peel thought otherwise, sat as near as he could to the Speaker, "manifested no anxiety for power," and "adhered to principle."

"Many people think that the whole art of conducting a party consists in eternal fussy manœuvring, and little cunning schemes for putting a Government in a minority. I believe, on the contrary, that the present strength of the Conservative party and the present condition of the Government have mainly resulted from our having taken the exactly opposite course—from our having kept aloof from Radical union, and from our having honestly supported the Government whenever we thought the Government right."

So he wrote in May, 1834. His policy was so successful that in the following November he had to be brought back post haste from Rome to complete, as its head, a Cabinet which, in his absence, the Duke of Wellington had undertaken to arrange for on Lord Melbourne's dismissal. This Government lived for barely five months, and Peel's only effective Premiership was between 1841 and 1846; but his power in Parliament and the country was great, and it would have been much greater had he been less hampered by old schemers of the Croker type and new adventurers of the Disraeli type. Caring only for office in so far as it might enable him to enforce the views that he held with transparent honesty, and always insisting that the methods adopted for reaching his ideals should be as honest as those ideals, he found his self-imposed task difficult and irksome, and his success was larger than might have been anticipated. The unfortunate quarrel about the Ladies of the Bedchamber, which a more agile diplomatist would have disposed of quickly, kept him out of office for at least two years, and in all his great exploits in statesmanship he received more help from the Radicals he aimed at thwarting than from the Conservatives he tried to educate. His caution in taking up with new ideas was matched by his boldness in giving effect to such of them as he did take up. If the Cobdenites bitterly reproached him for proceeding so slowly in the direction of Free Trade, as others did in respect of other movements, he really advanced their cause more rapidly and skilfully than they could have done by any action of their own, and his hardest work was in keeping the necessary measure of order among his own followers. They finally broke loose from him, and his retirement from office before he was sixty, soon succeeded by his untimely death, left the ground clear for party developments on lines he held to be dishonourable and unpatriotic. But in the eighteen most memorable years out of the forty to which his Parliamentary career extended, he achieved

wonders. There may be wide differences of opinion as to the place to be assigned to him among the statesmen of our own century or of all the centuries; but few, if any, can rank as high as he for integrity of purpose and manliness of conduct. He had no sympathy with or tolerance for the schemers and adventurers of any party. He was a politician only because he was a patriot. He meant what he said when he wrote, in 1839:—

"I will not stir a step to evade a public duty, but I must say at the same time that if my being Minister, or preventing any other person being Minister, to-morrow depended upon my crossing the street, I certainly would not cross it";

and when, holding that position, he declared:—

"As Minister of the Crown I reserve to myself distinctly and unequivocally the right of adapting my conduct to the exigency of the moment and to the wants of the country."

Of Peel's relations with his contemporaries these volumes, though they deal exclusively with his public career, contain new and welcome information in rare abundance. There is an interesting chapter on patronage, which brought Peel into connexion with Hood, Wordsworth, Tennyson, and such unfortunates as Haydon. All is to his credit. He lived down the prejudice at Court consequent on his objection to the young Queen being surrounded by Whig ladies while he was responsible for Tory policy, and Her Majesty as well as Prince Albert became his firm friends. He knew how to treat Disraeli, whether as a sycophant or as a slanderer, and all others with whom he was in contact, from Croker to Cobden, from Lord Brougham to Lord Shaftesbury. There was no stinting in the praise or thanks he tendered, whenever they were due, to foes as well as friends. "I never," said Lord Cardwell, "heard him speak unkindly of his persecutors; and when I mentioned this to Lady Peel, her reply was, 'Yes, but you cannot know that he would never allow me to do so.'" "Taken all round," said Mr. Gladstone, who owed more to him than most, "Peel was the greatest man I ever knew."

A supplementary and interesting 'Summary of the Life of Sir Robert Peel,' by his grandson, the Hon. George Peel, fills more space than Mr. Parker has allowed himself for the brief, but admirable explanatory paragraphs with which the letters are deftly strung together. Mr. Parker is an exemplary editor, and not the least evidence of this appears in the index of thirty-seven pages which concludes the work.

Poems. By George Meredith. 2 vols. (Constable & Co.)

This collection of Mr. Meredith's poetry, though convenient and uniform with the new edition of the novels, is not so liberally inclusive as that which forms part of the larger and more comely 'Works.' It has 'Modern Love,' with its companion of recent days, 'The Sage Enamoured and the Honest Lady,' 'A Reading of Earth,' the 'Poems and Lyrics of the Joy of Earth,' the 'Poems and Ballads of Tragic Life,' and 'The Empty Purse.' But it is without that early writing, so difficult of access,

some of which appeared in the 'Poems' of 1851, and some at the end of 'Modern Love,' as originally published in 1862. And it is without the 'Odes in Contribution to the Song of French History,' which appeared only a few weeks ago. Even the 'Works,' indeed, has not yet these; but it is to be hoped that Mr. Meredith does not mean permanently to withhold his "beginnings," so full of critical interest as well as of genuine merit, from the wider public, and that a third volume is destined to contain the 'Juvenilia,' and what, in no uncomplimentary sense, we may venture to call the 'Senilia.'

The last ten years have seen a singular and encouraging growth in Mr. Meredith's reputation. The "acute and honourable minority" of early days has swollen into a multitude whom no man can number, and whose admiration, one fears, is sometimes according to faith rather than according to knowledge. It can hardly be said that the discriminating portion of the reading public still fails, as it undoubtedly failed for many weary years, to appreciate the novels. They have taken their place, once for all, on the shelf of acknowledged masterpieces. But there is, in Platonic phrase, another great wave to be surmounted. We do not suppose that for ten competent persons who have assimilated the wit and wisdom, the tragedy and comedy of 'Richard Feverel' and 'The Egoist,' there is one who has fully realized the place which the writer of these already holds actually, and will some day hold manifestly, amongst Victorian poets. An exhaustive analysis of this place cannot be attempted here; but it is to be hoped that many who are yet uninitiated will buy these two volumes, and read and ponder and understand. In the sequel of these remarks we perhaps speak rather to the convinced.

The most familiar—and, indeed, the most individual—side of Mr. Meredith's poetry is doubtless, to use his own phrase, his "reading of earth." He is closer than most men to the heart of things. The lessons he has learnt most readily are those of the "changeable visible face" of the great Mother, and the subtlest harmonies of his lyre are those caught in exultation and trembling from the lips of Pan. Does he deal with the life of cities, with controversies and disputes, with the ways of "men contention-tossed"—then his verse can be turbulent, obscure, wayward, contorted, grotesque.

The friable and the gramous, dizzards both, is a line which has frequently been singled out for comment lately. The rather gruesome humour of the lines on Byron and his "after dinner's indigest" belongs to the same category. And such diction, whatever its merits or demerits, sounds exclusively Mr. Meredith's urban note. When he returns to his hillside and his pastures, when, like Antæus, he renews himself by contact with the broad bosom of earth, when he comes once more under the sweet influences of the Pleiades, then his mood changes. Then he is serene and sunny again, and an atmosphere of rich, mature beauty enwraps his poetry, which is of the breath of nature herself. Like all the great nature poets, Mr. Meredith is philosopher as well as land-

scape painter. From his communings with wood and cloud and wind he has extracted a profound and wholesome wisdom of life, which is the complement of his ever-ready and trenchant criticism. It is an austere teaching, laying its stress on the lessons of submission and of a keen, hardly acquired insight into the actual relations of things. Of sentimentalism, and scarcely less of cynicism, Mr. Meredith is the sworn enemy. It may, perhaps, be urged that in his insistence on an intellectual rather than a sensuous apprehension of life he becomes a little exacting; that he leaves scant room for, is over-contemptuous of, certain natural felicities and humanities which come to man, especially in youth, not of achievement, but without seeking, of temper or of grace. Yet, this allowed, his is none the less one of the most stimulating, the most tonic voices that speak to our time.

It is, however, precisely because the "reading of earth" is a comparatively familiar side of Mr. Meredith's poetry that we do not pursue it—at least in its philosophical bearings—now. We prefer, in the short space available, rather to call attention to what Mr. Meredith has done in two only of the many species of poetry that he has attempted with success—firstly as a sonneteer, secondly as a maker of myths. The most remarkable of Mr. Meredith's sonnets are, of course, *pace* the pedants, the sixteen-line sonnets of 'Modern Love.' These are, however, after the nature poems, fairly well known; and, moreover, if treated at all, they must be treated as a whole. But they by no means exhaust Mr. Meredith's work in this form. A few of the individual sonnets belong, indeed, to that division of his mind which tends to grotesqueness—are, in fact, to put it plainly, ingenious, but rather heavy clowning. But in the dozen finest of them—in 'Lucifer in Starlight,' 'Earth's Secret,' 'The Spirit of Shakespeare,' 'Appreciation,' 'To J. M.,' and several others—he has surely produced things hard to surpass, even among the masterpieces. The greatest qualities of sonnet-writing he has most greatly caught—the strength and dignity of movement, the subordination of the whole to its dominant idea. Above all, he puts into his sonnets, as into all his poetry, that "fundamental brain-work" which Rossetti—no mean critic of the art which he too handled as a master—declared to be perhaps the primary condition of success. What, for instance, can be more grandly conceived than 'Lucifer in Starlight'?

On a starred night Prince Lucifer uprose.
Tired of his dark dominion swung the fiend
Above the rolling ball in cloud part screened,
Where sinners hugged their spectre of repose.
Poor prey to his hot fit of pride were those,
And now upon his Western wing he leaned,
Now his huge bulk o'er Africa careened,
Now the black planet shadowed Arctic snows.
Soaring through wider zones that pricked his scars
With memory of the old revolt from Awe,
He reached a middle height, and at the stars,
Which are the brain of heaven, he looked, and sank.

Around the ancient track marched, rank on rank,
The army of unalterable law.

And though many sonneteers, from Milton to Matthew Arnold, have delighted to bring tribute of praise to the greatest of them all, yet surely none has done more acceptable homage than this, or done it in a spirit more akin to that of the man praised:—

Thy greatest knew thee, Mother Earth; unsoured
He knew thy sons. He probed from hell to hell
Of human passions, but of love deflowered
His wisdom was not, for he knew thee well.
Thence came the honeyed corner at his lips,
The conquering smile wherein his spirit sails
Calm as the God who the white sea-wave whips,
Yet full of speech and intershifting tales,
Close mirrors of us: thence had he the laugh
We feel is thine: broad as ten thousand beeves
At pasture! thence thy songs, that winnow chaff
From grain, bid sick Philosophy's last leaves
Whirl, if they have no response—they enforced
To fatten Earth when from her soul divorced.

When we call Mr. Meredith a maker of myths, the phrase perhaps requires some explanation. Many in our day have retold in their own speech the ancient and enduring fancies of Hellas: Morris, with unfailing charm; Mr. Bridges, with delicate scholarship; but few have done what is more than this—entered into the spirit of the mythopoeic age itself, and used forms like unto, but not identical with, the old ones to body forth in imaginative story their own haunting sense of the abiding divinity of earth. If any one could do it, it should be Mr. Meredith, who is, as we have said, nearer to earth than other men:—

I neighbour the invisible
So close that my consent
Is only asked for spirits masked
To leap from trees and flowers.

Four of Mr. Meredith's most remarkable poems are, we think, genuine myths. They are, of course, suggested or inspired by scholarship; but they are none the less his own and new, because it is to his own dreams and visions of earth and the ways of earth that they give the shapes of a natural anthropomorphism. There is the tale of Melampus, the good physician to whom, for his exceeding love of the creeping and winged things, the "mystical woods" disclose their utmost secret. His ears are touched by the forked red tongues of the snakes, and opened to the voices of birds and of plants.

So passed he, luminous-eyed for earth and the fates
We arm to bruise or caress us.

There is 'The Appeasement of Demeter,' a myth of the place of the "comic spirit" in life. It tells how Demeter, in grief for Persephone, "devastated our good land," and how the maiden lambs led the goddess to laughter, whereby "the curse was rent," and the bounty of the Great Mother flowed upon earth again. There is the beautiful 'Phœbus with Admetus,' in which the shepherds tell of how the sun-god came to dwell among them, taught them the arts of music and healing, and passed way.

Chirping none the scarlet cicalas crouched in ranks:

Slack the thistle-head piled its down-silk gray:
Scarce the stony lizard sucked hollows in his flanks:

Thick on spots of umbrage our drowsed flocks lay.

Sudden bowed the chestnuts beneath a wind unheard,

Lengthened ran the grasses, the sky grew slate:
Then amid a swift flight of winged seed white as curd,

Clear of limb a Youth smote the master's gate.

God! of whom music
And song and blood are pure,
The day is never darkened
That had thee here obscure.

But the most exquisite of all the poems of this order is certainly 'The Day of the Daughter of Hades.' Skiageneia, the "child

of shadows," is the daughter of Hades and Persephone. When her mother comes up to earth for her yearly meeting with Demeter in spring, the maiden comes too, slips out of the car, goes wondering over the hills and fields, and, before Hades reclaims her, falls in with a young poet, who bears the memory through life. The poem is full of the subtlest symbolism, and contains passages of natural description which give the authentic thrill. By Skiageneia herself is, we think, intended that higher delight in earthly beauty which is born not of the senses merely, but of the soul, and necessarily is tinged with the reflection of some of the darker hours which every soul must have passed through. She looks upon the world

like a child,
With the meaning known to men.

If this is not quite Mr. Meredith's elusive meaning, at least the interpretation is consistent with his usual way of looking at things, and the poem will read in the light of it. As examples of the beauty of the handling may be quoted the passage where the chariot of Hades,

like the dragon-tongue
Of a fire beaten flat by the gale,
But more as the smoke to behold,

bursts forth on the Sicilian morning, and the young poet, in response to his prayer, is permitted to look upon the meeting of the two goddesses:—

The embrace of the Twain, of whom
To men are their day, their night,
Mellow fruits and the shearing tomb:
Our Lady of the Sheaves
And the Lily of Hades, the Sweet
Of Enna: he saw through leaves
The Mother and Daughter meet.
They stood by the chariot-wheel,
Embraced, very tall, most like
Fellow poplars, wind-taken, that reel
Down their shivering columns and strike
Head to head, crossing throats: and apart,
For the feast of the look, they drew,
Which Darkness no longer could thwart,—

or again, after Skiageneia, with her speech
quick as the cries
Of the rainy cranes,

has been revealed, the delicious description of the spring and of her triumphant progress through it:—

A morning of radiant lids
O'er the dance of the earth opened wide:
The bees chose their flowers, the snub kids
Upon hindlegs went sportive, or plied,
Nosing, hard at the dugs to be filled:
There was milk, honey, music to make:
Up their branches the little birds billed:
Chirrup, drone, bleat and buzz ringed the lake.
O skining in sunlight, chief
After water and water's caress,
Was the young bronze-orange leaf,
That clung to the trees as a tress,
Shooting lucid tendrils to wed
With the vine-hook tree or pole,
Like Arachne launched out on her thread.
Then the maiden her dusky stole,
In the span of the black-starred zone,
Gathered up for her footing fleet,
As one that had toil of her own
She followed the lines of wheat
Tripping straight through the field, green blades,
To the groves of olive gray,
Downy-gray, golden-tinged: and to glades
Where the pear-blossom thickens the spray
In a night, like the snow-packed storm:
Pear, apple, almond, plum:
Not wintry now: pushing, warm!
And she touched them with finger and thumb,
As the vine-hook closes: she smiled,
Recounting again and again,
Corn, wine, fruit, oil! like a child,
With the meaning known to men.

We have been able to touch on one or two aspects only of a very liberal and various achievement. Mr. Meredith's poetry seems to us to stand one of the great tests: it endures reiteration. One can pass from it and come back to it, always to find redoubled beauties and enlarged wisdom.

Sir John Cope and the Rebellion of 1745.

By the late General Sir Robert Cadell, K.C.B. (Blackwood & Sons.)

THIS is in some ways a useful addition to the literature of the Forty-five, but can hardly be accepted as a final and authoritative work. Its author, Sir Robert Cadell (1825-97), had his home at Cockenzie House, quite close to the battle-field of Prestonpans, and as a boy made a copy of a contemporaneous 'Plan of the Battle by an Officer of the Army who was present.' Copy and original were rolled up together and mislaid, and, when they turned up after Sir Robert's death, were found to have both been eaten away by mice. Luckily what was destroyed in the one was left untouched in the other, and the reproduction here is extremely valuable, though one could wish the points of the compass were not reversed. The parts, too, of the book dealing with the battle of Prestonpans are valuable, for Sir Robert's local and military knowledge enabled him to correct several slips of his predecessors, *e.g.*, that the rebels marched up to Carberry Hill. But, with every allowance for their not having received the author's revision, the preliminary six chapters (two-thirds of the entire work) must be pronounced deplorably defective. They show no grip of the subject, and teem with irritating *errata*. A list of thirteen is appended; but that list is far from exhaustive. Take this account of the opening skirmish between Tiendrish and Capt. Scott on August 16th, 1745:—

"So faithfully reticent regarding the preparations for war were even the humblest peasantry, in the neighbourhood of Fort William and Fort Augustus, that although three weeks had elapsed since the arrival of the Doutelle, the governors of these forts had no reliable information regarding the serious mischief which was brewing. Little danger of attack was therefore apprehended in despatching from the former fortress early on the morning of the 16th of August two newly raised 'additional' companies, in all under 100 men. These companies, belonging to the Royal Scots Regiment, had been sent, for lack of more trained soldiers, by Sir John Cope from Perth to reinforce the garrison of Fort William. The intervening distance was about twenty-eight miles, and three-fourths of the long march had been traversed without molestation, when the somewhat fatigued recruits were suddenly assailed in the narrow and wooded ravine near the Spean bridge by a party of Highlanders, placed in ambush there by Donald Macdonell of Tiendrish, a kinsman of the Keppoch family. A retreat along the south bank of Loch Lochy to Invergarry Castle was then attempted; but fresh enemies opened fire from the rocks and brushwood on the hillsides, and finally the Glengarry men, led by a kinsman of their chief who had recently accepted a commission from King George in Lord Loudon's regiment, came down in front to attack the little column. Thus sorely beset, after having lost about a dozen men in killed and wounded, including their commander, Captain Scott, the troops laid down their arms on 'good quarter' being offered to them by

Keppoch, who had hastened to the scene with his followers."

The above is about as wrong as wrong can be. The Hanoverian companies were marching, not from Fort William to Fort Augustus, but from Fort Augustus to Fort William. That makes a surprising difference, for one cannot retreat in the direction in which one is advancing; a glance at the map or a look into Chambers's 'History of the Rebellion' should have rendered this blunder impossible. On p. 6 there are at least four misstatements: that Murray of Broughton was not older than Prince Charles Edward (he was five years older); that he "was introduced at the Pretender's court at Rome in 1741," instead of 1737; that the Prince wrote on June 12th, 1745, to his father "from Navarre," when he wrote from the Château de Navarre, near Evreux; and that the Duke of Perth died at sea, "worn out by illness and fatigue": he had really received his death wound in the sea fight of May 4th, 1746. Sir Robert cites more than once Mr. W. B. Blaikie's 'Itinerary of Prince Charles Edward'; that masterly monograph should have kept him right on many points where he has gone astray. The Prince's voyage from France lasted a good deal over a fortnight, and Lochnanuagh was reached, not on the 18th, but the 25th of July. The Prince was at Aberchelder on the morning of August 28th (not the 26th), at Blair Castle on the 31st (not the 30th); and on September 17th he was at Holyrood, certainly not at either Leckie or Bannockburn House. Col. Gardiner cannot have been "many years" on the Earl of Stair's ambassadorial staff; and Murray of Broughton must have had his manifestoes ready, for there would be no time to get them printed after the receipt of the Prince's summons. Tullibardine never surrendered to his kinswoman's husband, Buchanan of Drummikill, but was basely betrayed by him; and Dr. Archibald Cameron was, of course, not arrested in England. These mistakes may seem trivial, but they shake one's belief in an author; and as a matter of fact there is little or nothing new in all this part of the work.

Sir Robert's aim throughout is to vindicate Cope from the charges of poltroonery and incapacity. In order to do so he greatly exaggerates the accepted strength of the Jacobites, making them consist before Prestonpans of a vanguard of about two thousand, a main body of about five thousand, and at least one reinforcement of five hundred or a thousand. That seems fully three times too many; nor can we for a moment accept Sir Robert's contention that "the insurgents' numbers were systematically disguised and minimised by their leaders, with the object of causing little alarm to the existing Government." He holds that John Home, the dramatist, must have been deceived in his estimate of the rebels as "not above two thousand"; but he neglects to state that Home, when preparing for his 'History of the Rebellion,' applied to Patullo, an exile in Paris, who had been muster-master of the Jacobite forces, and that Patullo returned their number as about 2,500 at Prestonpans, and 5,500 at the beginning of the march into England. To the best of our knowledge the two armies at Prestonpans were pretty

equal. The Jacobites may have had a slight superiority in men, but the Government troops were infinitely better armed. It is ridiculous in that case to speak of Cope's "tiny force." Neither is it easy to see the point of the argument that "had Cope been so weak as to follow" this or that proposal "the result must have been immediate disaster." Disaster worse than that of Prestonpans is inconceivable. It seems odd, too, to clear a defeated general from the taunt of bringing the news of his own defeat by the plea that two of his officers had outstripped him in the race from the battle-field. Yet Sir Robert gravely points out that Cope did not arrive in Berwick until the day after the battle, but that Brigadier Fowke and Col. Lascelles had got there the very same day. To whitewash his hero, he must blacken both Guest and Gardiner, the general as a crypto-Jacobite, and the colonel as a fanatical, worn-out dotard. The charge against Guest seems wholly inconclusive, and that against Gardiner is most ungenerous. He, at least, did not fly, but fell on the field of battle. No: the one and only point which Sir Robert establishes to Cope's advantage is that he spent the eve of the engagement with his men, and did not retire to comfortable quarters at Cockenzie—a fable started by Chambers and adopted by Mahon and Ewald. In Allardyce's 'Historical Papers, 1699-1750' (New Spalding Club, 1895, pp. 279-82), is a description of the battle by a Government officer, which states expressly that "we lay upon our Arms all night, and every half hour the General, who continu'd in the Line, Received the Reports of the Patroles." Otherwise Cope will remain in the reader's estimation pretty much where he was before this volume was published—the "little, dressy, finical man" of Clerk of Penicuik's 'Memoirs'; probably no poltroon, but a most incapable general.

There are two or three little points about the battle that may be glanced at. It was fought, as is well known, just after day-break on September 21st; but few probably know that on that day at Edinburgh the sun rises at 5h. 57m. A.M. Old Robin Anderson of Whitburgh, who guided the Prince's army through the marsh, must have lived into this nineteenth century, for Sir Thomas Dick Lauder recollected him well. Alexander Carlyle, who witnessed the fight, tells in his 'Autobiography' how "many of the runaways had their coats turned as prisoners." We commend this to Dr. Murray for "turncoat" in his great 'Dictionary,' and ask information. And from the 'Marchmont Papers' (i. 120) it is plain that the decimation of Cope's dragoons was seriously talked of in London in the October of 1745.

West African Studies. By Mary H. Kingsley. (Macmillan & Co.)

A NEW work from the pen of Miss Kingsley is heartily welcome; and in many respects, indeed, 'West African Studies' is more solid and satisfactory than her 'Travels in West Africa.' It bears evidence of great industry, extensive reading, and careful consideration of all matters on which it treats; the writer's conclusions are more matured, and merit serious attention

from all interested in our West African possessions, their unsatisfactory present condition, and their prospects, political, commercial, and sanitary.

Miss Kingsley is an enthusiast for West Africa; she revels in descriptions of the people and scenery; she is always amusing, and her high spirits become infectious. In fact, her earlier chapters are written in that vivacious and humorous style with which her previous work familiarized the public. That "we are seriously in want of reliable information on West African affairs" is a truism, and Miss Kingsley has successfully striven to supply the want, both by personal observation and by information obtained at the fountain head. Her writings certainly tend to dispel many illusions and misconceptions; but it is not until she begins to describe the various phases of Fetish that she becomes serious and settles down to solid work, and even then she cannot always refrain from flashes of humour. However, she demonstrates how earnestly and deeply she has studied the intricacies of Fetishism. She does not profess to have probed the subject to the bottom, but her definition of Fetish is decidedly informing:—

"I mean by Fetish the religion of the natives of the Western Coast of Africa, where they have not been influenced either by Christianity or Mohammedanism. I sincerely wish there were another name than Fetish which we could use for it, but the natives have different names for their own religion in different districts, and I do not know what other general name I could suggest, for I am sure that the other name sometimes used in place of Fetish, namely Juju, is, for all the fine wild sound of it, only a modification of the French word for toy or doll, *joujou*. The French claim to have visited West Africa in the fourteenth century, prior to the Portuguese,.....and no doubt have long called the little objects they saw the natives valuing so strangely *joujou*, just as I have heard many a Frenchman do down there in my time. Therefore, believing Juju to mean doll or toy, I do not think it is so true a word as Fetish; and after all, West Africa has a prior right to the use of this word Fetish, for it has grown up out of the word *Feitico*, used by the Portuguese navigators who rediscovered West Africa with all its wealth and worries for modern Europe. These worthy voyagers, noticing the veneration paid by Africans to certain objects, trees, fish, idols, and so on, very fairly compared these objects with the amulets, talismans, charms, and little images of saints they themselves used, and called those things similarly used by the Africans *Feitico*, a word derived from the Latin *facilius*, in the sense magically artful. Modern French and English writers have adopted this word from the Portuguese, but it is a modern word in its present use."

Miss Kingsley entertains decided views regarding the state of commerce, and points out that trade is hampered through the ignorance and indifference of the local authorities, who do nothing to foster mercantile expansion, either on the coast or in the hinterland, but quite the reverse. In truth, they are not in touch or sympathy either with white merchants or native traders, although it is from them, and them alone, that the revenue necessary for carrying on the Government is derived, and consequently there is a growing friction between the official and mercantile elements, so that social intercourse between the two classes, once genial and friendly, has almost ceased. She also points out that prior to the

accession of Mr. Chamberlain to the Secretaryship for the Colonies, the value of our West African possessions as markets for home manufactures and providers of raw material was neither recognized nor appreciated. It is, therefore, only fair to him to admit that he realizes the importance of these colonies, and that he has done much to remedy the unsatisfactory state of things existing before his time; but he has been trammelled by lack of proper information, and by what has been most justly termed the "pigheadedness" of the permanent officials at home and of the colonial administrators in Sierra Leone and on the Gold Coast. The world has had experience in Sierra Leone of the mischief which may be caused by the obstinacy of one man; and a similar disaster has only been delayed—not averted—on the Gold Coast by the refusal of the Secretary of State to sanction the enactment of laws to which the natives are strongly opposed. On the Gold Coast discontent is rapidly extending, and but for the influence of some educated natives would before now have culminated in a rising far more dangerous, because more general and extensive, than the one in Sierra Leone.

A strong denunciation of the system of government in our West African possessions is the most important portion of the present work. The administration of Sierra Leone was recently stigmatized as a "disgrace to the British Empire," and with good reason. The general public have no conception of the evils attendant on the Crown Colony system. Miss Kingsley remarks:—

"Now, you will say, Wherefore should the general public in England interest itself in this matter? Surely things are now governmentally administered in England's West African colonies for the benefit of all parties concerned. Well, that is just exactly what they are not."

She then proceeds to state her reasons—which are strong and to the point—for condemning the system altogether. With many of them we entirely agree, especially with the following brief passages:—

"Up to our own day the Colonial Office has been, except in the details of domestic colonial affairs, a drag-chain on English development in Western Africa. It has not even been indifferent, but distinctly, deliberately adverse."

"Possibly the greatest evil worked by this resolution [i.e., of 1865] has been the separation of sympathy between the merchants and the Government. Since 1865 these two English factors have been working really against each other."

"Truly it is a ridiculous situation, because West Africa matters to no party in England so much as it matters to the mercantile."

"The second part of the reason of England's trouble in West Africa is that other fallacious half reason which our statesmen have for years been using to soothe the minds of those who urged on her in good time the necessity for acquiring the hinterlands of West Africa, namely, 'After all, England holds the key of them in holding the outlets of the rivers.' But while our statesmen have been saying that, France has been industriously changing the lock on the door by diverting trade routes from the hinterland she has so gallantly acquired, down into those seaboard districts which she possesses."

"The Government officials, having cut themselves off from the traders and taken over West Africa, failed to manage West Africa, and so resolved that West Africa was not worth managing—a thing they are bound to do again."

It is easy to concur generally with what the author urges, but it is not equally easy to approve of her "alternative plan," although it contains valuable hints and suggestions. The idea of a general council on African affairs in England is good, provided that it is properly constituted, and includes some prominent merchants; but the rest of her scheme would require modification in its details. Undoubtedly a strong case has been made out against the Crown Colony system and its working in West Africa. In this connexion the author makes a sweeping charge against the missionary party:—

"The evil worked by what we must call the missionary party is almost incalculable; from it has arisen the estrangement of English interests, as represented by our reason for adding West Africa to our Empire at all—the trader—and the English Government as represented by the Crown Colony system, and it has also led to our present policy of destroying powerful native States and the power of the African ruling classes at large. Secondly, it is the cause of our wars in West Africa. That this has not been, and is not, the desire of the mission party, it is needless to say; that the blame is directly due to the Crown Colony system it is as needless to remark; for any reasonable system of its age would long ere now have known the African at first hand, not as it has known him, and knows him only, at its headquarters, London, from second-hand vitiated reports."

The author's estimate of the good accomplished by the Royal Niger Company and Sir G. Taubman-Goldie is quite justifiable, but the mercantile element in Liverpool, Manchester, &c., will not acquiesce in it. It remains to be seen what effect the change of administration about to take place, when the Niger territory comes under the rule of the Colonial Office, will have. It is greatly to be feared that Miss Kingsley's prediction may be fulfilled,

"that three months' Crown Colony form of government in the Niger territories will bring war, far greater and more destructive than any war we have yet had in West Africa, and will end in the formation of a debt far greater than any debt we now have in West Africa, because of the greater extent of territory and the greater power of the native States, now living peacefully enough under England, but not under England as misrepresented by the Crown Colony system."

The value of the chapter on "African Property" is considerable, still we regard it as only an instalment of what Miss Kingsley will tell us in a future work, probably not to be written until she has again visited what she affectionately terms "her beloved West Africa."

She has been fortunate in obtaining the help of the Comte de Cardi and Mr. John Harford, both old and experienced traders on the West Coast, who have contributed appendices i. and ii., 'On the Natives of the Niger Coast Protectorate' and 'A Voyage to the Oil Rivers Twenty-five Years Ago.' Both are full of interest to all who desire to learn something of the regions described. It is to be regretted that others of the intelligent class of traders have not given the public the benefit of their experiences. Possibly the example now set will be followed before long by competent men, well qualified to describe the countries and peoples amongst whom their lot has been cast. At the same

time we must confess that we prefer Miss Kingsley's own handiwork and cheery, bright style.

The volume concludes with an account of 'Trade Goods used in the Early Trade with Africa,' which is chiefly remarkable for the similarity of several articles sold to the natives at the time referred to and those in demand at the present day. Many have, however, become obsolete or valueless, and are replaced by much more varied assortments, to meet the requirements of natives who are rapidly becoming civilized and acquiring tastes for luxuries and comforts unknown to their forefathers.

A few errata should be corrected in future editions. The two maps and the illustrations are good, but the index leaves much to be desired.

Petrarch, the first Modern Scholar and Man of Letters. By J. H. Robinson and H. W. Rolfe. (Putnam's Sons.)

PETRARCH'S reputation has undergone a more curious fate than that of any other great man in the history of literature. Posterity has insisted on judging him upon the part of his work by which he himself set the least value, and on the strength of it has confirmed to him the place which he earned in the eyes of his contemporaries by writings of quite another kind. "Francis Petrarke, the laureat poet," would never have attained that honour, nor would his company have been sought by kings and emperors, if all he had to show had been a few hundred sonnets and odes in the vernacular. Nor is it certain that posterity has in this matter judged more soundly than contemporaries. With all his exquisite finish Petrarch is not one of the great poets of the world. Mr. Rolfe remarks, truly enough, that he possessed no adequate appreciation of Virgil's pathos—of the "tears for the things that are"; the reason is plain why, with all his command of language, he had no power to call forth those tears, still less to suggest the thoughts that "lie too deep for tears." In self-consciousness, at any rate, he may be called the first of the moderns; but we have never been able fully to understand the claim so often set up for him, and here repeated, as the first modern scholar. Indeed, Messrs. Robinson and Rolfe seem, in fact, to prove pretty effectively that, except for the rather larger number of ancient authors to whom he had access, he stood in this respect very much where Dante did. His criticisms are no sounder; he allegorizes the *Æneid* as fantastically as we need not say Dante himself, but any of Dante's early commentators; his notions of etymology are not a whit more advanced. If his Latinity be somewhat nearer the classical standard, that is because he set himself deliberately, if with only moderate success, to write like Cicero, while Dante wrote Latin as it lived, subject to the same law of evolution as any other organism. So far, and so far only, does Petrarch approach the modern scholar.

Politically, again (and no shame to him), Petrarch was a man of his time, or even of the past. Charles was to him the lawful Cæsar, the successor of Augustus, no less than Charles's grandfather had been to Dante. It was "duces nostri" over whom

the Punic invader won his victory on the Ticinus. If to be born a Greek is considered more noble than to be born an Italian, what is this but putting the slave above his master? Surely there is little enough here of the cosmopolitan humanistic way of looking at things.

On Mont Ventoux, perhaps, Petrarch does show something of the modern spirit. Not that the ascent itself was the "epoch-making deed" which an enthusiastic German has called it. Others had doubtless been there before; one old gentleman owned to it. It was fifty years and more since King Peter of Aragon had gone up a yet bigger mountain for the fun of the thing. Dante, too, knew all about climbing. But when, having reached the top and looked at the view, Petrarch pulls out his St. Augustine's 'Confessions,' and, opening upon a wonderfully apposite passage, begins a train of reflections leading up to the thought how much more trouble we ought to take to set our feet on our appetites than on the tops of mountains, then the reader feels indeed that "the modern note" is struck. Dante and the Middle Ages, with their "one thing at a time" way of regarding life, are far behind, and the nineteenth century, with its Byrons and Wordsworths, is at hand.

On the somewhat otiose question whether Petrarch was jealous of Dante—a question which excites much feeling in Italian breasts—our authors wisely say little. It is singularly unimportant; but if there is anything in language, one would say that the expressions of the famous letter to Boccaccio are exactly what would be used by a smaller man extremely jealous of a greater man's fame. Signor Carducci, who holds the other view, has perhaps not read Pope's character of Atticus. If he ever does, he will recognize in the letter in question an aggravated form of the symptoms so well recorded by the English poet. Literary jealousy, however, probably existed in the days of the Tell-el-Amarna tablets; so one cannot say that the presence of it in Petrarch aids us to classify him.

The great merit of Messrs. Robinson and Rolfe's book lies in the copious translations from Petrarch's letters. Letters are nearly always interesting, and Petrarch's self-consciousness did him no harm as a correspondent. Will they not some day publish the whole lot? Signor Fracassetti's edition has been before the world for forty years, and it is too bad that the correspondence should have remained so long without an English dress. Just a translation with a few biographical notes on the correspondents is all that is wanted. The excellent little 'Life' by the late Mr. Reeve will do the rest. Why, by the way, does the reader hear nothing about Thomas of Messina, the recipient of so many of Petrarch's letters? His name only occurs once in the volume, and then it is merely the heading of a letter, and misspelt. And how, if Petrarch only found Cicero's letters to Atticus in 1345, did he manage to quote a phrase from them in 1333? And, most puzzling of all, how did Boethius's body ever get to Sardinia? and if Luitprand really performed the feat of bringing it thence, is it not odd that both his panegyrist Paul and the anonymous chronicler of Pavia should omit to mention it among the pious actions which they duly record?

NEW NOVELS.

The Love Story of Margaret Wynne. By Adeline Sergeant. (White & Co.)

IN this blameless tale Miss Sergeant shows how well justified may be the first impressions of the feminine mind. Miss Wynne obtains neither from Bayard Lestranger himself nor for some time from any one else a contradiction of the sinister rumours as to his character which seem so inconsistent with her instinctive estimate. Yet she lives to discover how sound was her diagnosis of a rare nature, in which filial and family piety has kept her hero tongue-tied under the pressure of the vilest accusations. The minx Estelle is allowed to go scot-free for the sake of her young son, his uncle's and his grandfather's darling. Bayard's chivalry in taking crime on his own shoulders does not commend itself as very wise, nor truly very moral, and it is a relief when the unvarnished tale of the minx's surviving first husband allots the blame in the proper quarter. Old Sir Jasper is not a particularly probable family despot; and why did Estelle commit herself by endorsing a "bearer" cheque? But Margaret Wynne herself saves the piece.

The Archdeacon. By L. B. Walford. (Pearson.)

ALL students of fiction are familiar enough with the device of the preliminary chapter or prologue, whereby the reader is put in possession of facts that may be essential to the due comprehension of the story proper. Mrs. Walford has adopted a curious variation of this method. She, too, has indulged in a prologue, in which the Archdeacon is but an undergraduate; only the prologue occupies more than half the book, and forms almost a complete story in itself. Indeed, we have in recent times seen many far more fragmentary tales discharged as complete stories at a long-suffering public. Then comes a gap of twenty years, and the undergraduate reappears as a dignitary of the order which the title of the book denotes. In his former capacity he has fallen in love with the first girl with whom he has ever come in contact; for he belonged to a class of undergraduates less common, we suspect, twenty years ago than now—the young men, at once shy and "superior," who, doubtful of their power to impress society at large with their own estimate of their merits, make a show of indifference to it, and more especially to the feminine portion of it. However, he is fairly caught on the first opportunity; but a worldly-wise acquaintance intervenes—goodness knows why!—and scarlet fever aiding, Theobald Yorke and the young lady drift apart, and meet no more till he is "the Archdeacon" and she a wealthy widow. Formerly she was the frivolous creature of society, he the dreamer with high ideals; now, if we make allowance for the fact that their years have doubled, the parts are exchanged. He is a polished and cynical man of the world, as the archdeacon of fiction is apt to be; she is a woman whom trouble has taught to think. And so the issue is joined. As will be seen, the theme offers possibilities which would not be beneath the notice of a stronger craftsman than Mrs. Walford. She has made a fairly attractive tale, but hardly more. Chester,

the worldly-wise acquaintance above mentioned, is not exactly convincing. One knows the kind of man Mrs. Walford has in her mind; but he would not behave that way. It is always hard to keep the manners of two periods, especially recent periods, clear; but we would suggest that the bicycle was not a universal adjunct to the biped twenty years ago, nor was it called a "bike," nor would the most slangy of schoolboys have talked about "lydies." Nor, again, had sanitary science taught us that the avoidance of "infection" took precedence of all social or friendly duties. After all, Mrs. Walford has only done what many historians do in projecting modern culture into a semi-civilized past.

The Day of Temptation. By William Le Queux. (White & Co.)

THE life of one lady and the death of another form the main subjects of Mr. Le Queux's last effort; and it will be a sufficient indication of its melodramatic nature if it be added that the death in question is brought about by the murder of a woman in a hansom cab standing at the door of the Criterion. As in other novels by the same author, the interest of this volume is mainly sensational; but it may be added that Mr. Le Queux's sensational writing is seldom ineffective. In 'The Day of Temptation' a Queen's Messenger plays a by no means insignificant part in the drama, and it is remarkable that in a previous book the same author has told us a good deal about these despatch bearers. As a whole, the story is not one of the best he has written, but it is none the less fairly readable and interesting. No exception will be taken to its moral tendency. The subject involves the occurrence of supposed incidents of very recent date. One passage, at p. 244, is needlessly extravagant in its terms.

John Bede's Wife. By Cecil Wentworth. (Digby, Long & Co.)

THIS simple and unpretentious story contains the materials for a very good novel; and the manner in which several of the more pathetic passages are handled shows that the writer possesses some share of literary instinct. It would be easy to point out numerous faults in the plot, but the redeeming features are many, and sufficient to render the volume acceptable to readers. After dealing slightly with life in New Zealand and New South Wales, the book is in the main occupied with a sketch of life and manners in an English coal-mining district. The story might be read by girls. The labour of proof-correction has been inadequately performed.

La Force. Par Paul Adam. (Paris, Ollendorff.)

MANY of our readers have no doubt followed in the *Revue de Paris* the remarkable work before us. It has neither beginning, nor end, nor story, and it is sadly long, like all the most powerful French romances of the day. But its picture of the Napoleonic wars is lifelike, and it makes a considerable impression on the reader. It is no more fit for young ladies than were the battles it relates.

Le Talion. Par Édouard Delpit. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

'LE TALION' is an old-fashioned "sensation-novel," belonging to a different world from most of the French novels of the day.

La Danseuse de Pompei. Par Jean Bertheroy. (Paris, Ollendorff.)

M. BERTHEROY'S is an illustrated romance of Roman life, carefully studied and well written, but wilfully licentious, especially in its little pictures, though the story in itself is romantically pretty.

GENEALOGICAL LITERATURE.

The Marriage Registers of St. Dunstan's, Stepney. By T. Colyer-Fergusson. Vol. I. (Privately printed.)—The zeal exhibited at the present day, not only by societies, but by individuals, in printing parish registers is as welcome as it is remarkable. We gather that Mr. Colyer-Fergusson proposes to deal with the Stepney marriages down to 1753; but the present volume covers only the period 1568-1639. There is not a complete agreement as to how registers should be printed; but in these pages it is pleasant to see the original spelling is preserved. Such a form as "St. Toolies" (St. Olave's), Southwark, is of value not only phonetically, but also as illustrating a form of corruption which affected St. Oyth, St. Audrey (Etheldreda), and others. The marriages in a large London parish are always of special interest to genealogists, introducing as they do many names from other parts. An Earl of Bedford was married at Stepney, and so were an Egerton of Egerton and a Temple of Stowe. A Cambridgeshire knight there married the daughter of a Norfolk squire, whose son in turn is found marrying the daughter of an Essex knight. Essex folk, indeed, are plentiful enough in the register, from county families to a beggar from Dovercourt, whose bride was a fellow-beggar on the tramp, "under licence of two of her Majesty's Justices." But Stepney, as the editor observes, had its own residents of repute. Among these were the Dethicks of Poplar, one of whom, a daughter of "Garter," was married in 1606. It seems over-scrupulous to print her name as "Dethij]," both in text and index. Then there were the refugees, beginning to settle in Spitalfields, and supplying marriages from "the French congregation" and "the Dutch congregation" as well. The names of their occupations throw light on the local industries, especially on the weaving with which Spitalfields has so long been connected. The localities mentioned are also, of course, valuable as evidence of the development Stepney had attained at the time. But it will be puzzling to the reader to find "Knockfergus" occurring so frequently as the bridegroom's residence. It would seem that importance was attached to the rarity of weddings in Lent; in one case "Lent, none married," is conspicuously entered. The editor has bestowed great pains on this interesting register, of which he has only printed a hundred copies. A word of praise is due to Messrs. Cross & Jackman, of Canterbury, for the excellent get-up of the volume.

The Registers of the Parish Church of Bury, 1590-1616. By W. J. Löwenberg and H. Brierley. (Lancashire Parish Register Society.)—This is, we think, the first publication of the above enterprising society, which proposes to print all the Lancashire registers, 106 in number, commencing not later than 1700. There is nothing, however, to show whether it is so. Those who are acquainted with modern genealogy will readily understand that, with new families constantly coming to the front, Lancashire is a county where parish registers are frequently placed under requisition. It will doubtless, therefore, be able to support a society

of its own for their publication. Various circumstances have combined of late to bring into prominence the value of these local records and the desirability of printing them; and it is only by such societies as this that any substantial impression can be made on so vast a mass of material. They ensure also uniformity of treatment and afford a certain guarantee for the accuracy of the work. The present volume appears to be in every way a credit to its editors, who have collated the entries in the register with those in the episcopal transcripts. The variants, we may add, are not many, but are in some cases rather startling. A most commendable feature is the index of trades, descriptions, and various matters, which introduces us to a "painful preacher," an "ancient professor," and other curiosities. The index of places, also, is of value for local topography. If we are to offer any criticism, it would be that the preface might have been fuller. The reader is not told if the Bury registers are continuous from 1590, or to what date the first volume extends. About half of it, however, is here printed. The preface alludes to the ordinance of 1597, "that each parish should provide a parchment book"; but Bury seems, though it is not expressly stated, to have provided one in 1590, for the entries appear to be contemporary from the first. As late as 1608 not one of the six churchwardens could write his name. From a useful list appended to this volume it would seem that only three Lancashire registers begin in 1538 and two in 1539. Lastly, it seems to be worthy of notice that among the limited number of libraries and societies supporting this undertaking are four in the United States.

Canterbury Marriage Licences. Fourth Series. 1677-1700. Edited by Joseph Meadows Cowper. (Privately printed.)—The Canterbury licences are not so fortunate as to touch the history of many families of renown or interest; but they throw some light on the trades and occupations of Kent, and are not without value for the history of foreign settlements in this country. The editor prints a list of trades and professions; but his compilation is of little value, as he appends but one reference to each. An analytical list is clearly a desideratum. In his index of some two hundred and fifty trades it is surprising to find no pargeter, either by that name or by another. On names of places outside Kent Mr. Cowper is too timid. He ventures to conjecture that "Penwensky" in Sussex stands for Pevensy, but has nothing to say for "West-hastry" in Hampshire or "Erre" in Gloucestershire. John Powell, of the latter place, was a sailmaker in 1696, and there can be little doubt that the place intended is Awre, a village on the Lower Severn. The original entry may have been Orre, and either the editor or an earlier copyist has made the mistake. Mr. Cowper, on another entry, notes that "the book was carelessly, and he has good reason to believe imperfectly, kept from the beginning of 1685." There are other signs that the entries were sometimes made from an oral statement. Of one instructive mistake Mr. Cowper has failed to see the significance. His index of female names gives the strange entry "Cetura, Cath." In the text we find "Young, Thomas, of Sandwich, mariner, widr., and Cath. Cetura." On this Mr. Cowper notes that "the name Cetura was first entered as Turnmoss or Turamoss. In the Ickham transcript it is Keturah Moss, not Catherine." The editor ought to have seen that the Ickham transcript is right. In the Canterbury entry the name was originally written "Cetura Moss." The false spelling of the Christian name misled some corrector, who altered the entry to "Cath. Turamoss," if, indeed, the editor has not misread his document. In either case the mistake is typical; but Mr. Cowper, with his experience, should not have allowed such a surname as Cetura to appear in his index. The surname Moss occurs in several other entries.

It might be wished that the editor had made it clear when he was copying his text exactly and when he was giving abbreviations or spellings of his own. Such forms as "crocer" and "garner" are given in inverted commas or with a "[sic]." There is, moreover, a suspicious uniformity in the spelling of names. Useful as Mr. Cowper's work may be, it will not, in face of these doubts, supersede a reference to the original authority.

TALES OF ADVENTURE.

MR. H. B. MARRIOTT WATSON in *The Adventurers* (Harper & Brothers) seeks to give reality to a story of fighting for treasure on the Welsh Border in the year 188-. Such a story, so near our own times and within the limits of Great Britain, is beset with difficulties, and it may be doubted if they are not too many for the author's powers. However, there is a hunt for buried treasure concealed in three great chests in a castle; and there is much fighting and using of secret passages, knives, and revolvers, and generally all the concomitants of such narratives, except the hero's lady-love, who is fortunately left out of the story. Not only is there fighting on land; the last scene represents a fight between two small boats on the sea in a fog; and one is ultimately run down by an "ocean liner," and with it perish the villain and the treasure. It is a long composition, very laborious and never very interesting. It is, perhaps, best suited to the requirements of boys and girls, as it may not be equal to satisfying maturer tastes. The law as to treasure-trove is quite misconceived, and it is very doubtful if the contents of the treasure chests could be included in the term. If the stuff is not treasure-trove, and as such the property of the Crown, the book is meaningless. There are numerous and excellent illustrations of the more important incidents, drawn by A. I. Keller. The book should have appeared during that part of the publishing season devoted to Christmas literature.

After a few preliminary and subsidiary incidents, involving various felonies, the true story of *Fettered by Fate*, by G. W. Miller (Digby, Long & Co.), is commenced. It is a common pirate story, familiar to the readers of such literature in all respects save one, which must justify this notice of the volume. There are some very remarkable instances of the misuse of English not often met with in a book of which the title-page speaks as "a novel," and which is offered to the public at the nominal price of six shillings. We are unable to deal with all the gems that the volume contains, but a few random passages will suffice. One unpunctuated passage reads thus:—

"After resting awhile they retraced their steps with great difficulty often taking a course which led them to some insurmountable obstacle and necessitating them returning to their former starting place."

In another place we read that the pirates "compelled the defenders to fall back as they potted off those who were more daring than the rest"; and a little later one of the pirates struck his head "against a hatchway coming [sic] in his fall." The concluding words of the book contain the truly marvellous statement that

"the gunpowder magazine blew up, inveigling [sic] in one common ruin the shattered timbers and miserable wrecks of struggling humanity, as it hurled them, with all the force and violence of a mighty volcanic convulsion, into countless heights above."

This is one of the silliest narratives published of late.

Red Rock. By Thomas Nelson Page. (Heinemann.)—Regarded merely as a story, there is little to be said for 'Red Rock.' But, in truth, it is not as a story that it should be regarded, but rather as a picture of the Southern States after the war. It is, perhaps, natural that the author as a Southerner should treat his innumerable Southern patriots on the most

approved principles of hound breeding, and produce "a nice, level lot" of heroes, among whom there is not a pin to choose in the matter of heroic qualities; but this is not one of the nine-and-sixty ways of constructing a good story. The villains, again, are of the outworn type who induce in every hero an unaccountable feeling of dislike, who scheme to secure mortgages on heroic homes and steal bonds from behind heroic pictures. Nevertheless, any one who will put plot out of the question, and regard the book as a description of life under almost unique conditions, will find 'Red Rock' excellent reading. It is well written, and its characters are, on the whole, pleasant and interesting people. Unfortunately the volume is of enormous length, and since it must be read for the writing and not for the story, the most judicious skipping cannot remedy this defect. But it is rather a book to be picked up from time to time than one to be devoured at a sitting, and most people who pursue this plan will enjoy it to the end.

MILITARY LITERATURE.

A Prisoner of France: Memoirs, Diary, and Correspondence of Charles Boothby. (Black.)—The book before us is like a far-away echo of a war which to the present generation is almost ancient. Charles Boothby, born in 1786, in due time obtained at the Royal Military Academy a commission in the Royal Engineers. After what may be termed some desultory active service in the Mediterranean and Baltic, he took part in the closing scene of the Corunna campaign. Returning to England, he proceeded a few weeks later to Portugal, and in the Oporto campaign he served with a British brigade in the corps commanded by Marshal Beresford. In the advance into Spanish territory he was attached to General Sherbrooke, second in command, and from that time his journal begins. It is copious, and does not cover a long period, viz., only about a year. He was disabled at Talavera, was left behind when the British army retreated after the battle, and remained a prisoner for seven months in Spain, followed by five months on parole in France, at the end of which time he was exchanged. Owing to the loss of a leg he determined to quit the army, and, after gaining his degree at Oxford, he took orders, and for thirty years, till his death in 1846, he held the Crown living of Sutterton, in Lincolnshire. The journal is not a remarkable or exciting production; but, as the introduction says, "Capt. Boothby's story of the adversities of war, and of the courtesies of the enemy by which they were mitigated, will be read with lively interest." A few sidelights also are thrown on the relations between the French and Spaniards, and the description of the conduct and characters of some of the French marshals and their subordinates is of historical value. A striking instance of the inefficient manner in which the medical department was managed in the Peninsula is afforded by the following incident. The leg which he lost was shattered by a musket ball at Talavera. He was carried to his own quarters in the town. On an examination the next morning a surgeon informed him that amputation was indispensable. The zealous doctors, however, with all the goodwill in the world, could not spare time to attend to Capt. Boothby, and when one came from the general hospital, it was only to make the following extraordinary statement:—

"Capt. Boothby," said he, "I am extremely sorry that I could not possibly come here before—still more sorry that I only come now to tell you I cannot serve you. There is but one case of instruments, which it is impossible for me to bring from the hospital while crowds of wounded, both officers and men, are pressing for assistance."

Another fact which will also surprise the present generation is that, before absolutely deciding on the amputation, the surgeon bled the patient, who had already lost so much blood, in the arm.

When the French occupied Talavera after the retreat of the allied armies, Staff-Surgeon Higgins, who with several of his comrades had been left behind in charge of the wounded, rode out to meet the general commanding the leading troops, the cavalry. The French officer received Mr. Higgins with "encomiums, assurances, and professions," a reception which, after all, was natural, as the British had always treated their prisoners well, and many French wounded lay alongside Wellington's men at Talavera. In fact, on the whole, especially by the senior officers, Capt. Boothby was treated throughout his captivity with humanity and consideration. Their men were, however, too often marauders. Capt. Taylor, of the Royal Artillery, lying wounded in his quarters, was visited by three ruffians, who, in spite of his representations and remonstrances, devoured his food, drank his wine, and robbed him of clothes, watch, and money. Capt. Boothby was fortunate enough to have in his house two officers on the staff of General Villatte's division, who treated him like true comrades. The *commandant de place* and the Chief of the Staff, General Sémellé (?), were also most kind and sympathetic; and nothing could have been more considerate and amiable than Marshal Mortier's treatment of him. The captain dined with the marshal more than once received from him several little luxuries, and when he left to go to Madrid obtained from Mortier a letter of recommendation to Jourdan, in which an entreaty was made that he should be exchanged. In spite of this, when he and the other wounded officers reached Madrid, they were refused the liberty which they had enjoyed at Talavera, and confined under sentries in the Buen Retiro, or placed in the hospital. It is evident, however, that, after all, they had little to complain of. After staying at Madrid for nearly three months, Capt. Boothby was sent to Paris, where he remained till July, 1810, when he was exchanged. The reader who feels interested in accounts of the mutual atrocities of the Spaniards and the French should turn to the book itself, the author of which writes very temperately and impartially on the subject. It need only be said that much of the abuse showered on the French army ought to be withdrawn when we consider the circumstances of the case. The most interesting parts of the work under review are those which refer to Napoleon, Ney, and Soult. On one occasion, when the author was conversing with a French officer, the latter adverted to the disposition of Mortier, Duc de Trévise,

"to befriend me, and the claim I derived from my misfortune. 'The Duke's opinion,' said I, 'is that if I could obtain an interview with the Emperor, he would immediately send me to England.' 'He would,' said the officer, 'not because he would feel for your situation, but that he might seem to feel for it. It is thus that he has often done beautiful acts which narrate well; but he feels for no one!'"

The quarrels between the marshals in Spain are matters of notoriety. Capt. Boothby tells a remarkable story of the great lengths to which the hostility of Ney and Soult to each other was carried. It is almost incredible, but the author of the diary asserts that he feels full confidence in the veracity of his informant—an officer on the staff of Ney—who could have no motive to deceive. After the retreat from Oporto and Portugal in 1809, Soult, on arriving at Lugo, repaired to Ney's quarters, "and was ushered in by the officer who is my informant. From the ante-room that officer could distinctly overhear the altercation produced by their meeting. On entering the room where Ney was, Soult, after the manner of the French, went forward with open arms to embrace him. 'Stand back,' said Ney. 'I don't know you. Where do you come from? You come flying, like a coward, from the enemies of the Emperor!' 'Allons done,' returned Soult. 'I come to save Lugo, which you were on the point of losing.' 'I neither want assistance,' said the other, 'nor are you in a condition to give me any. I have met by hundreds your straggling fugitives. They all had abandoned their

arms, that they might fly the faster; but their packs, heavy with plunder, were religiously preserved! It is you, Monsieur le Maréchal, who have taught them to throw away their muskets in order that they might carry the more booty, when your orderly book gave up such a town as Oporto to a three-days' pillage. Is that the way, sir, you consult your master's interests? To give up the second city of the country, you take in his name to the horrible excesses of your brutal soldiers! You are no longer a Marshal of France. I will no longer acknowledge you as a chief in authority under the Emperor." Soult, though the senior, still endeavoured to appease Ney by representing the importance of their unanimity; but Ney was inflexible, and became so grossly abusive that Soult, unable any longer to command his temper, retorted some very harsh expressions upon the aggressor; stung by which, that furious Marshal, suddenly drawing his sword, said, "Villain, defend thyself!" a mandate which was instantly obeyed. As both were expert swordsmen, they contended for some time without bloodshed, and General Maurice Mathieu, rushing into the room, found them hotly engaged. Having parted them, he reported that their respective corps were volleying at each other in the great square, thus, as if by sympathy, following the example of their chiefs. This intelligence restored Ney to his senses, and both combatants, galloping into the square, by their personal efforts ended the fray of the soldiery, and quelled a civil broil of an aspect the most menacing and alarming. Some appearance of harmony was established between the Marshals; but it was deceptive."

The book is enriched by several pen-and-ink sketches by the author, but lacks an index.

Napier's 'Peninsular War' is so eloquently written that it is attractive to civilians as well as to soldiers. It is, however, extremely voluminous, and the portion relating to the operations of the Spanish armies rather overlays the portion dealing with Wellington's operations. Still, it is an English classic, and is recognized as the chief authority on the six years' struggle. Mr. Shand has presented those who find Napier too voluminous with *The War in the Peninsula* (Seeley & Co.), a condensed account, succinct, but clear. He tells us in an introductory note that, though his narrative is necessarily based on Napier and the Wellington despatches, he has consulted other writers, English and foreign, and that he enjoyed the advantage of discussing portions of the subject with the late Sir Edward Hamley. It is needless to say that, like most of those who have paid much attention to the subject, he is impressed by the greatness of the illustrious leader whose genius it has been rather the fashion of recent years to disparage. In his appreciation of Wellington, Moore, and Cradock—the last commanded in Portugal between the entry into Spain and Sir Arthur Wellesley's arrival at Lisbon—he expresses himself most happily. Referring to Cradock, he says:—

"The justice he deserved has scarcely been done him. Wellington was a soldier of genius, Moore was a soldier of talent, Cradock was a soldier of capacity and resource. Had affairs then been directed by a timid man or a blunderer, undoubtedly Portugal must have been evacuated. Cradock had barely 10,000 men with which to garrison the frontier fortresses and to secure Lisbon, which was the point of supreme importance. Even when he received reinforcements he could never put half that number in the field, and the long frontier he was supposed to defend was easily assailable by an enterprising enemy."

One good feature in Mr. Shand's book is the clear way in which he emphasizes a fact too much overlooked by Wellington's critics, and, indeed, by many of those who criticize all military operations, viz., that whereas those who write after the event are in possession of full information regarding both the contending forces, that information was not available for the respective generals at the time. We should therefore, in common fairness, judge the commanders by the information which they possessed at the time when they formed their decisions. The duke himself once remarked that all through his campaigns he had been trying to find out what was at the other side of the hill, and it is clear that in the Peninsula

he often failed to make the discovery. It might have been supposed, that operating in a friendly country, he would have easily obtained full, accurate, and early information. That he did not was, perhaps, owing to the dilatory and inexact character of his Spanish supporters. Naturally the French experienced even greater difficulties, but they possessed a numerous and skilful body of cavalry, while the British cavalry at first was small in number and inefficient in scouting. Be that as it may, the commanders on both sides frequently formed wrong estimates as to their opponents' strength. Wellington has been accused of sometimes acting with undue caution, but it is to be remembered how difficult his situation was. Referring to the Salamanca campaign, the author remarks:—

"Wellington's situation at that time is a striking example of the anxieties and responsibilities that may weigh upon a general, charged with great and complicated operations, yet dependent upon others for their satisfactory execution. Napoleon was supreme master; what he ordered he had the means of carrying out. The English general was at the mercy of ministers at home, with whom the means of correspondence were slow and precarious. As we have seen, when it was inconvenient to assist or impossible to answer him, they simply ignored his applications and left him to himself. Now the army, disgusted at what seemed cowardly caution, was verging on open mutiny; even officers high in rank made no allowance for his difficulties; the Spaniards were failing him, and he was equally worried by dilatoriness in the north, and apprehensions of the rashness of those who should have relieved him from pressure from the south and east. The Portuguese were reasonably clamorous for promised subsidies which had been long withheld; and finally, his military reputation was being imperilled by causes altogether beyond his control. The immediate necessity was a supply of money, and no money was forthcoming. He wrote a despatch on the 15th June, and when we remember the position after Talavera we may understand the force of his protest. 'I have never been in such distress as at present, and some serious misfortune must happen if the Government do not attend seriously to the subject and supply us regularly with money. The arrears and distresses of the Portuguese Government are a joke to ours, and if our credit was not better than theirs we should certainly starve. As it is, if we don't find means to pay our bills for butcher's meat there will be an end to the war at once.' With extreme reluctance he had almost made up his mind again to fall back upon Portugal, when Marmont, of all men, came to his relief."

That Wellington was enterprising when occasion permitted was shown by his daring passages of the Douro and the Bidassoa, on each occasion his opponent being the skilful, if occasionally careless Soult. Mr. Shand has on one occasion at least failed to compare Napier's statements with those of other writers and later information. He says that at Albuera Col. Hardinge, without communicating with the general, ordered up a division and a brigade, and thus saved the day. The facts of the case were told partly by the late Lord Hardinge's journal, partly by the late Sir Arthur Hardinge, who had often conversed with his father about the battle. Col. Hardinge was by Beresford's side when, gathering from his manner and orders that he was about to retreat, he said, "I think, sir, I ought to tell you that you have a peerage on the one hand and a court-martial on the other." Beresford, after a moment's reflection, replied, "I will go for the peerage." On this Hardinge, "either on general instructions or on his own initiative, knowing what the general wanted," ordered up the troops who turned the tide of battle. Again, able as Mr. Shand undoubtedly is, his want of professional knowledge leads him into some technical errors. For example, he calls the banks of earth placed across a rampart to protect the defenders from enfilade fire "traverses" instead of *traverses*, and that twice at least. "En campagne ruse" instead of *en campagne ruse* is apparently due to carelessness in correcting the proofs. In describing the storming of Badajoz he remarks that there had been neither time nor means for battering the counterscarp. Had he substituted "blowing in" the counter-

scarp (which is the side of the ditch nearest the besiegers), the passage would have been comprehensible; as it is there is no sense in the sentence. To carelessness alone must be attributed the statement at p. 183 that Sir Home Popham's squadron was employed in 1812 on the north-east instead of the north-west. "Raking" is the nautical equivalent for "enfilading," and means firing in the direction of the length of a line, yet both terms are continually used erroneously. The above defects are not, however, of great moment, and Mr. Shand's book is a welcome addition to British military literature.

We have on our table two volumes dealing with the land fighting in the Spanish Antilles—one by the well-known novelist Mr. Harding Davis, *The Cuban and Porto Rican Campaigns* (Heinemann), and the other *The War in Cuba* (Smith & Elder), by Mr. J. B. Atkins, correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*. Mr. Davis's book is profusely provided with illustrations from photographs, but the map of Cuba is on too small a scale to be of any use, and his two sketch maps do not show the contours of the ground. From photographs Mr. Atkins has borrowed only a frontispiece, and his maps are hardly superior to his rival's. Indeed, his map of Puerto Rico is decidedly inferior. The conclusions of both writers are much the same: that the landing-place in Cuba was badly chosen; that the advance and the fighting in front of Santiago did little credit to the American commanders, who handled their troops badly and exposed them to unnecessary hardship and loss; and that their success was mainly due to the fearlessness and self-confidence of their regular troops and the passive character of the Spanish defence. In details the two occasionally differ. Mr. Davis thinks that in the skirmish with which the brief campaign opened the Rough Riders were ably led. Mr. Atkins is of opinion that they fell into an ambush from the carelessness of their officers. On the other hand, Mr. Davis uses most vehement language against General Shafter—far more violent than the correspondent of the *Manchester paper*, who writes temperately, indulges in—and he entertains a strong contempt for the Spanish nation, even going so far as to deny to the countrymen of Cervantes a sense of humour, and all but accusing them of cowardice. Yet the Spanish conscript, ill drilled, ill fed, ill clad, and ill led, evinced a steadiness in meeting superior numbers and an indifference to danger which prove him still to possess the qualities that, turned to proper account, made the *tercios* for a century and a half the terror of Europe. Had his commanders been capable of taking the offensive at the right moment, he might have driven back the invaders. The fighting at Puerto Rico was of so slight a character that neither author has much to tell us. The Spanish resistance was strangely half-hearted, and the Americans arranged matters better than in Cuba. Throughout the war they showed a readiness to profit by experience.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. C. J. S. THOMPSON in his *Poison Romance and Poison Mysteries* (Scientific Press) deals, in part, with many of the celebrated cases recently described by Major Griffiths in his 'Mysteries of Police and Crime.' We are bound to say that a comparison of the two books is considerably to the advantage of the latter. Major Griffiths, for example, makes a much better story out of Madame Lafarge's strange case than does Mr. Thompson; and the same remark applies to the exploits of Palmer, the Rugeley murderer. 'Poison Romance' also contains some chapters on the medical effects of opium, tobacco, and other narcotics, and they are decidedly sensible and well informed. Mr. Thompson's historical anecdote, however, is not to be commended at all. It is thrown together without much regard

for chronology, and is quite uncritical. What is to be thought of a writer who gravely retails the atrocious charges against Leicester, Elizabeth's favourite, which are to be found in the libel 'Leicester's Commonwealth,' frequently, but incorrectly, attributed to Father Parsons, with the mere remark that they are "according to some historians"? Research into the documentary evidence of that period has effectively disposed of the worthy Lingard and his generous acceptance of partisan statements made by the followers of one faith against the political representatives of another.

OUR readers will probably remember that in 'The Workers: an Experiment in Reality—The East,' published some eight months ago (*Athen.* No. 3682), Mr. W. A. Wyckoff related the experiences of an amateur who tried to play the part of an unskilled labourer in the Eastern States of America. We do not wish to imply that his "experiment in reality" was in any way half-hearted. On the contrary, the book in which he recorded the earlier results of the experiment bore witness on every page to the thoroughness with which his idea was carried out, and it was that very quality above all else which made 'The East' a book to be carefully read and long remembered. Now, in *The Workers: The West* (Heinemann), we have the conclusion of the same experiment, and it must reluctantly be admitted that the volume is something of a disappointment. It was, perhaps, natural, if not inevitable, that any continuation of a work so thoroughly satisfactory as 'The East' should lack something of the freshness of its predecessor. But the mere loss of novelty, though it may count for much, cannot sufficiently explain the inferior effect produced on the mind of the reader by this second part. To us it seems as if the definiteness and sincerity which so strongly characterized Mr. Wyckoff's previous work had suddenly disappeared, and had been replaced by something perilously like picturesque reporting. It is difficult to see why there should be this abrupt change in a narrative interrupted only by the purely accidental circumstance of separate publication. Yet, from the arrival in Chicago onward, the plain tale which charmed us in the first part becomes overlaid with an amount of description and speculation which goes far to destroy its simplicity and sincerity. Even the language seems to have changed; we recall in 'The East' no such slovenly mixing of preterite and present as occurs within the first few pages of 'The West.' If we have dwelt too seriously upon the weakest point in Mr. Wyckoff's work, it is only because we so highly appreciated the quality which he seems to us to be losing. There can be no question as to the interest which attaches to the tale of his labours between Chicago and the Pacific. On those who have read 'The East' there will be no need to urge the merits of its sequel, but those to whom the author's work is new will do wisely to seek out the earlier book, and read the two in their due order.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. publish *Fields, Factories, and Workshops*, by (Prince) P. Kropotkin. The apparent object of the book is to advise increase of production and attention to the home market; the real object is probably to advance a communistic arrangement of society by showing the failure of the present system to maintain the people in comfort on the result of moderate exertion. Industries are to be decentralized. Colonies will not, as is thought, help to bolster-up the present organization of society, as each nation and even each colony will become in turn a manufacturing centre. Our author pushes his views too far and lets them affect his statement of facts. He says, for instance, of Germany, "Thirty years ago she was a customer of England," as if she were no longer such. Yet the exports of German produce to Germany are gigantic, and have

enormously increased in recent years. Prince Kropotkin prints figures to show a decrease of export of British goods to Russia, as though the fact was typical. But in the same period the increase of the export of British goods to Argentina, for example, and to South and Central America in general, has vastly exceeded the falling-off to which he calls attention, and that decline itself has now ceased. Prince Kropotkin does not examine the extent to which the "residential" character of England checks the "productiveness" of the country. English woods, for instance, are not planted and managed so as to produce the largest crop, but in part for beauty and in part for game. Our author must beware of his tendency to loose statement. "From the age of ten or even nine we send the child to push a coal-cart in a mine," with the context as to "a Staffordshire pottery," which shows that "we" means the British people, is untrue. It was true in the life of living persons, but the Coal Mines Regulation Acts are not violated in this particular. The statement that "the fertility of the soil" of Jersey "is made partly by the sea-weeds gathered chiefly at Blaydon-on-Tyne" reads as if some one had been making fun of the author.

The Glamour of the Impossible, by Cosmo Hamilton (Chatto & Windus), is described as "an improbability" on the title-page, and as "a new 'society' story" in the advertisements. The former sub-title is the more comforting: we should be sorry for society if the seven slangy "dear old chaps" at a coaching establishment, and their infatuation, Mabel, were fair specimens of it. Their love affairs are described with some cleverness, but in an overdose of smart writing which does not appeal to us; others possibly may, to use the author's dialect, be "beastly grateful" for it.

MESSRS. BLACKWOOD & SONS publish *A Shuttle of an Empire's Loom*, by Mr. Harry Vandervell, a work, with a bad title, which tells simply and in interesting fashion the story of five months' service on a cargo-boat, as an ordinary seaman, by a man with the training and habits of a gentleman. Dana's 'Two Years before the Mast' is the type of such books, and Mr. Vandervell's venture stands the comparison well.

The Hand of a Little Child, by Lucie E. Jackson (Jarrold & Sons), belongs to the "Bairnie Series of Dainty Books for Children," and is pretty to look at, being bound in delicate green and adorned with gold; but there is not much to be said for it otherwise. It is the story of two little children who are kidnapped by a wicked tinker, and dragged about the country until, by a lucky chance, they reach the house of a long-lost uncle; the good wife of the wicked tinker, thrusts them in at the gate, family feuds are healed, and all ends well. The book is quite harmless, but not at all amusing.

The Memory of Burns (Glasgow, Hodge & Co.) contains several specimens of the eloquence of Burns clubs in Scotland and the United States. The most notable is Prof. Wilson's address in 1844. Lord Rosebery's two speeches are inserted. Dr. J. D. Ross edits the volume.

THE eighth and ninth volumes of Messrs. Constable's handsome limited edition of Fielding, which complete *Amelia*, are now out, each prefaced, as before, by a specimen of Cruikshank's etching. The volumes are, we are glad to find, more of a size than some previous ones in the edition. It seems a pity so to arrange the divided parts of a novel as to make one bulkier than the rest, if it can be avoided.

We have on our table *A Prince from the Great Never Never*, by Mary F. A. Trench (Hurst & Blackett).

Lord Ormont and his *Aminta* has appeared in the edition of Mr. Meredith's romances in single volumes which Messrs. Constable are publishing.—Browning's *Men and Women* and Mrs.

Browning's *Aurora Leigh* have been added to Messrs. Dent's "Temple Classics." The latter poem is edited by Mr. Buxton Forman.

Dod's Parliamentary Companion (Whittaker & Co.) is invaluable as ever. It is a pity that it should continue to be marred by the absurd description "H. R." ("English supporters of a separate Parliament for Ireland") being applied to Scots like Messrs. McEwan and Wallace, members for Edinburgh, who are for all practical purposes the most powerful opponents of such an Irish constitution.

MESSRS. EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE are the London agents for the sale of *The New Zealand Official Year-Book for 1898* (dated in preface September 30th), prepared by the Registrar-General of the colony, and published by the Government Printer. The seventh issue before us has no new features of importance.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. have issued a sixpenny edition of Sir John Lubbock's *Pleasures of Life*.

WE have on our table *Heinrich Heine's Last Days*, by C. Selden, translated from the French by Mary Thiddall (Fisher Unwin).—*Lessing's Nathan der Weise*, with Introduction and Notes by G. O. Curme (Macmillan).—*Heirlooms in Miniatures*, by Anne H. Wharton and E. D. Taylor (Lippincott).—*Prisons and Prisoners*, by the Rev. J. W. Horsley (Pearson).—*Asray in the Forest*, by E. S. Ellis (Cassell).—*The Spirit of Sweetwater*, by H. Garland (Service & Paton).—*The Knight's Quest, and other Tales for Boys*, by the Rev. E. Green (C.E.T.S.).—*Rough Cast*, by C. R. Coleridge (S.P.C.K.).—*Vingt Ans au Parlement*, by J. Delafosse (Paris, Ollendorff).—*Immortality on God's Terms*, by G. P. McKay (Allenson).—*The Range of Christian Experience*, by R. W. Moss (C. H. Kelly).—*The Life of Cesare, Cardinal Baronius*, by Lady Anabel Kerr (Art and Book Company).—*Martin Luther, 1483–1546*, by H. E. Jacobs (Putnam).—*Present Day Tracts*, by various writers, Vol. XIV. (R. T. S.).—and *A Daily Message for Christian Endeavourers*, compiled by Mrs. Francis E. Clark (Bowden). Among New Editions we have *Methods of Industrial Remuneration*, by D. F. Schloss (Williams & Norgate).—and *The Microscope*, by J. Hogg (Routledge).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Abbott's (L.) *The Life and Letters of Paul the Apostle*, 6/
Green's (E. T.) *The Sinner's Restoration*, 12mo. 2/6
Hutton's (R. B.) *The Sorrows of the King*, cr. 8vo. 3/6
Randolph's (B. W.) *Meditations on the Old Testament for Every Day in the Year*, cr. 8vo. 6/
Roberts's (W. P.) *Our Prayer-Book: Conformity and Conscience*, cr. 8vo. 6/

Law.

Pease (J. G.) and Chitty's (H.) *A Treatise on the Law of Markets and Fairs*, 8vo. 8/6

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Bond's (F.) *English Cathedrals Illustrated*, cr. 8vo. 6/
Harding's (J. D.) *Lessons on Art*, cr. 8vo. 6/
Holme's (C.) *A Course of Instruction in Wood-Carving according to the Japanese Method*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 net.
James's (G.) *Fourteen Drawings illustrating FitzGerald's Omar Khayyam*, 4to. 7/6 net.
Kenyon's (P. G.) *The Palaeography of Greek Papyri*, 10/3
Verestchagin's (V.) "1812," Napoleon I. in Russia, illustrated by the Author, cr. 8vo. 8/

Poetry.

Chapman's (E. J.) *A Dream of Two Lives, and other Poems*, 8vo. boards. 2/6
Daley's (V. J.) *At Dawn and Dusk*, cr. 8vo. 5/
Dante: *The Purgatory: Part 2. The Earthly Paradise (Cantos 28–33), in Literal Verse by C. L. Shadwell*, extra cr. 8vo. 5/ net.
Sewall's (Mrs.) *Poems and Ballads, with Memoir by Miss E. Boyd-Bayly*, 12mo. 3/6

Music and the Drama.

Jones's (H. A.) *The Physician*, 12mo. 2/6
Year's Music, 1899, edited by A. C. R. Carter, cr. 8vo. 2/6

Political Economy.

Kropotkin's (P.) *Fields, Factories, and Workshops*, 8vo. 12/

History and Biography.

All's (Ameer Syed) *A Short History of the Saracens*, 7/6 net.
Atkins's (J. B.) *The War in Cuba*, cr. 8vo. 6/
Carter's (G.) *History of England: Part 3, 1689–1897*, cr. 8vo. 2/
Davis's (R. H.) *The Cuban and Porto Rican Campaigns*, extra cr. 8vo. 7/6 net.
Gray's (J. H.) *The Queens' College of St. Margaret and St. Bernard in the University of Cambridge*, 5/ net.
Johnston's (Sir H. H.) *A History of the Colonization of Africa by Alien Races*, cr. 8vo. 6/

Richard's (J. W.) Philip Melancthon, the Protestant Preceptor of Germany, 1497-1560, extra cr. 8vo. 6/
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 Venn's (J.) Biographical History of Gonville and Caius College: Vol. 2, 1713-1867, royal 8vo. 20/ net.
 Whitman (S.) and M'Fritilla (J. R.) Austria, extra cr. 8vo. 5/. (Story of the Nations.)

Geography and Travel.

Johansen's (H.) With Nansen in the North, translated by H. L. Brakstad, extra cr. 8vo. 6/
 Oppenheim's (E. C.) New Climbs in Norway, 7/6
 Pittman's Commercial Geography of the World, cr. 8vo. 2/6

Education.

Kant on Education, trans. by A. Churton, cr. 8vo. 2/6 net.

Philology.

Dialectorum Italicarum Exempla Selecta Latine reddita, by H. S. Conway, 8vo. sewed, 2/6
 Goethe's Iphigenie auf Tauris, edited by K. Breul, 12mo. 3/6. (Pitt Press Series.)
 Pliny, Selected Letters, edited by J. H. Westcott, cr. 8vo. 6/
 Tacitus, Dialogus de Oratoribus, edited by A. Gudeman, 5/

Science.

Bretschneider's (E.) History of European Botanical Discoveries in China, 2 vols. royal 8vo. sewed, 30/ net.
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 Taiter, edited by G. A. Aitken, Vols. 3 and 4, 8vo. (in sets of 4 vols.), 30/

FOREIGN.

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DRYDEN'S 'RELIGIO LAICI.'

THE usual opinion with regard to the 'Religio Laici' has been that, in the words of Sir Walter Scott, "when it first appeared, in November, 1682, it attracted neither admiration nor censure." Scott considered that it "might probably have been again reprinted with advantage, but our author's change of faith must necessarily have rendered him unwilling" to do more than print what has hitherto been known as the second edition of 1683. According to Prof. Saintsbury, there was a still later edition of 1683; but from that date the poem did not reappear until the date of the folio (1700).

The question of the unpopularity of Dryden at the close of 1682 and of his sensitiveness to his new religious attitude is, however, curiously affected by the discovery of an edition still earlier than Scott's second. Mr. Lister, who made the catalogue of my own library, and is revising his catalogue of the late Mr. Locker-Lampson's books, was struck by the unlikelihood of my 1682 edition to the Rowfant copy of the same date. He has been good enough, at my request, to make a collation of the two quartos, and, although they bear no sign to show which is the earlier, they are most clearly independent. The discrepancies are mainly in matters of spelling, but these are so very numerous as to make it almost imperative to believe that the two editions were not merely set up at different times, but from different manuscripts.

When I mention that, in this short poem, we have observed nearly seventy differences in the spelling of the text, it is plain that neither is a mechanical reproduction of the other. But what is very remarkable is that it seems almost impossible to form an opinion as to which of the two is the earlier. If the spelling were markedly more correct in one copy than the other, we might believe that the accurate text was the later and revised one; but this is not the case. All that I can say after most closely comparing the two sets of readings is, that those in the Rowfant copy seem to reproduce more exactly than those in mine Dryden's personal peculiarities of spelling; so that it is reasonable to conjecture that the Rowfant copy was printed from Dryden's handwriting, and mine from a MS. made before publication by some one else. But even here there seems as much to be said for the priority of the former as of the latter. It should be remarked that the 1683 reprint in the British Museum, which must now be called the third edition (the fourth I have never come across), usually, but by no means constantly, agrees with my text. Neither my copy nor the Rowfant one contains Lord Roscommon's laudatory lines.

The puzzle seems inextricable, and, after all, involves a matter of bibliography not in a high degree important; but it is, I think, important to gain this evidence that the 'Religio Laici' was not, as all biographers of Dryden have hitherto supposed, neglected on its first appearance, since, although it was only published in November, 1682, a second edition was certainly issued before the end of the year. Nor is this a case of possible piracy, since both the Rowfant edition and mine bear the imprint of Dryden's own publisher, and are "Printed for Jacob Tonson at the Judge's Head in Chancery-lane, near Fleet-street."

EDMUND GOSSE.

LAMB'S 'POETRY FOR CHILDREN.'

February 4, 1899.

HAVING read Mr. Gollancz's reply to your correspondent G. H. P. in to-day's *Athenæum*, I feel it due to the latter to say that his account of Mr. Gollancz's so-called "Poetry for Children by Charles and Mary Lamb" is absolutely correct, and his criticism entirely justified.

What Mr. Gollancz has published is a small selection (about one-third) from the Lamb's 'Poetry for Children,' interspersed with other verses, some of them ludicrously inappropriate to children, such as the 'Vision of Repentance,' a gloomy poem of Lamb's written years before. In thus acting Mr. Gollancz has simply followed the lead of the late Mr. R. H. Shepherd, who more than twenty years ago published a little volume containing identically the same selection. As Mr. Gollancz now intimates that he was quite aware that the whole of Charles and Mary Lamb's 'Poetry for Children' had been discovered and published as long ago as 1878, it seems strange that he volunteers no explanation of the singular course he has adopted.

ALFRED AINGER.

If Mr. Gollancz knew of the 1892 reprint in two volumes of Lamb's 'Poetry for Children,' with Mr. Andrew Tuer's explanatory introduction, and if he also knew of Mr. Herne Shepherd's reprint, will he explain why at this late date he has edited the incomplete collection referred to by G. H. P., and why he has omitted all mention of the complete editions he professes to know so well? According to his own account, Mr. Gollancz would seem to have sinned against the public with his eyes particularly wide open.

A. T.

THE PUBLISHING SEASON.

MR. FISHER UNWIN announces the following books:—In *Belles-lettres*, Travel, &c.: 'Shakespeare in France,' by M. Jusseland, — 'A Literary History of Ireland,' by Dr. Douglas Hyde, — 'The Welsh People: their Origin, Language, and History,' edited from the Report of the Royal Commission on Land in Wales and Monmouthshire, by Prof. John Rhys and Mr. D. B. Jones, Q.C., M.P., — 'Roman Life under the Cæsars,' by Prof. Emile Thomas, — 'History of Jewish Literature,' by Mr. Israel Abrahams, — 'The Literary Remains of Norman Néruda,' edited by his wife, — 'The Kingdom of the Ba-Rotsi, Upper Zambesia,' by Capt. Bertrand, translated by Mr. A. B. Miall, — 'Johnson Club Papers,' by various hands, — 'Realism, a Paradox,' by Mr. D. M. Haylings, — 'The British Army,' translated by Mr. A. Sonnenschein from the German, — 'University Problems in the United States,' by Dr. D. C. Gilman, — 'A Gem of Orthodoxy,' by Mr. S. L. Marsden, — 'The Complete Poems of Mathilde Blind,' — and a new edition of Mr. W. B. Yeats's 'Poems.' In History and Biography: 'Napoleon's Invasion of Russia,' by Mr. H. B. George, — 'The History of the Laws and Courts of Hong Kong,' by Mr. J. W. Norton-Kyshe, — 'Fifty Years of the History of the Republic in South Africa, 1795-1845,' by Dr. J. C. Voigt, — 'Lives and Times of the Early Valois Queens,' by Mrs. C. Bearne, — 'The Story of the Maine,' by Capt. C. D. Sigbee, — 'The History of Corsica,' by Mr. L. H. Caird, — three volumes of the 'Story of the Nations': 'China,' by Prof. R. K. Douglas; 'Modern England under Queen Victoria,' by Mr. Justin McCarthy; and 'Modern Spain (1788-1898),' by Mr. Martin A. S. Hume, — 'A Child's History of Spain,' by Mr. L. Williams, — 'Sir Philip Sidney and the Sidney Family,' by Mr. Philip Sidney, — 'Piers Gaveston, a Chapter of Early Constitutional History,' by Mr. W. P. Dodge, — 'Claude Bernard,' by Dr. Michael Foster, in 'Masters of Medicine,' — 'Pioneers of the Mountains,' by Mr. F. Gribble, — and 'Admiral Phillip: the Founding of New South Wales,' by Messrs. L. Becke and W. Jeffery, in the 'Builders of Greater Britain' series. In Fiction: 'Daisy, and other Stories,' by Mr. W. S. Maugham, — 'All in the Downs,' by Mr. J. Kent, — 'By Creek and Gully, Stories of Bush Life, Prose and Verse, by Australian Writers in England,' edited by Mrs. Lala Fisher, — 'For Better or Worse,' — 'Marguerite de Roberval,' by Mr. T. G. Marquis, — 'The White Olive, and

other Stories,' by Rev. C. Casey, — 'I, Thou, and the Other One,' by Miss A. E. Barr, — 'The Mad Parson of Hool,' by Lord E. Hamilton, — 'Anercestes the Gaul,' by Mr. E. M. Smith, — 'An Earthly Fulfilment,' by Mr. J. R. Watson, — 'Life's Peepshow,' by Miss H. R. Russell, — 'Lally of the Brigade,' by Miss L. McManus, — 'The Vision of Milli the Slave,' by Mr. Louis Becke, — and the first three volumes of the "Overseas Library": 'The Ipané, and other Sketches,' by Mr. R. B. Cunningham Graham; 'The Captain of the Locusts, and other Stories,' by Miss A. Werner; and 'Chloe and Yarikó,' by Mr. J. Rodway.

Messrs. Wells Gardner & Co. announce 'Banners of Christian Faith,' by Bishop Winington Ingram, — a series of Lenten addresses by Prof. Tyrrell Green, 'The Sinner's Restoration,' — 'Christ in the City: some Elements of Religion in Common Life,' by the Rev. H. Bickersteth Otley, — a fourth edition of Canon Sanderson's 'Life of the Waiting Soul in the Intermediate State,' — a second edition of the Rev. F. Douglas Robinson's 'Driven by the Spirit,' and 'Baptized with His Baptism,' a manual for the use of the sick, by the same author, — the Rev. Hon. James Adderley's 'Salvation by Jesus: an Address to a Penitent Soul,' — and 'Stories from the Lives of the Saints,' told by the Rev. Percy Dearmer, and illustrated by Mr. C. Robinson.

Messrs. Greening & Co. promise 'A Trip to Paradoxia,' by Mr. T. H. S. Escott, — 'The Lady of the Leopard,' by Mr. C. L'Epine, — and 'The Resurrection of His Grace,' by Mr. Campbell Rae-Brown.

THE STATUTE OF WINCHESTER, A.D. 1285.

WHEN the statutes published in Norman French by the Angevin kings were first translated into English in the sixteenth century, the French tongue had already undergone considerable changes, both in its vocabulary and syntax. The circumstance, coupled with the fact that the scholars of the Renaissance professed the greatest contempt for whatever was not Greek or Latin — a contempt which naturally carried with it a complete ignorance of the history of the Middle Ages — accounts to a great extent for the very unsatisfactory way in which the work of the translators was done. As might be expected, the statutes which had fallen into disuse, and only interested historians, suffered most. The rest were more or less effectively protected by the traditions of the bar and the constant reference made to them in the courts of law. These, besides, have from time to time undergone revision at the hands of the legists, whilst purely historical statutes have come down to us with all the imperfections of the original rendering. Take, for instance, one of the most important of all, the Statute of Winchester (13 Edward I.), which is given in full in Dr. Stubbs's 'Select Charters'; the translation which accompanies it is simply swarming with mistakes. I need not say that the learned Bishop of Oxford is in no way responsible for the inaccuracies I am alluding to, for he simply reproduced the original version of the sixteenth century as found, but slightly modified, in the large edition of the 'Statutes of the Realm,' published by authority in 1810. If, therefore, I refer the reader to the 'Select Charters,' it is only because Dr. Stubbs's book is in the hands of every student of English history, whilst the huge folios of the 1810 edition are not always easily accessible. This said, I shall feel more at ease in singling out some of the worst blunders it contains.

First, about the arming of the militia (§ vi.): this paragraph makes it quite plain that the translator was totally unacquainted with the weapons used in the thirteenth century. He sees no difference between "un espe," the Norman form of the French word *espée* (a lance), and the feminine *espee* (a sword), which is men-

tioned a few lines further among the smaller arms. That the two weapons were quite distinct is plainly shown by the following lines taken from a twelfth-century poem: —

Trei mile somes, n'i cil n'ait ventaille,
Et fort espie, et espee qui talle.

'Li Coronementz Loois,' v. 418.

In the same paragraph the omission of a comma after "faus" led the translator to see in this word a mere adjective, if not a verb. In reality "faus" (Lat. *faux*) was the name of a weapon not unlike a large pruning-knife mounted on a short staff. The following sentence will show still more plainly how carelessly the translator performed his task. The text has: "e tuz les autres q' aver pount, eient arcs e setes hors des forestes, e dedenz forestes arcs e piles," which is translated thus: "and all other that may shall have bows and arrows out of the forest, and in the forest bows and bolts." When the legislator assigned a different missile to those who dwell within the precincts of a royal forest, obviously his object was the protection of the game. Now, one fails to see how this object could be attained by the mere substitution of the bolt for the arrow. As a matter of fact, the dwellers in the forest were armed with *pillets* or *pylets*, a kind of arrow often mentioned by the thirteenth-century writers, which had a knob upon the shaft near the head, not, as it has been said, to prevent them from penetrating the object aimed at too deeply, but to make them fall perpendicularly and with increased velocity when shot against the sky. In Joinville's 'Life of St. Louis' there is a passage (§ 205) which clearly illustrates the use of this particular missile: —

"Et pour ce que li Sarrazin ne pooient traire à aus, pour les dous eles des paveillons que li roys y avoit fait faire, li traioient tout droit vers les nues, si que li pylet lour choëient tout droit vers aus."

Thus, though very effective when used against a compact body of troops, the pilet was an almost harmless tool in the hands of a poacher, as it was hardly possible for him to take aim with it. Before leaving this subject, I may as well call attention to some minor errors in the text, which are calculated to make the sense less obvious. First, there should be a comma between "suites" and "de veilles"; then, instead of "de fraunchises e dehors," read *dedenz fraunchises et dehors*, a phrase which occurs in the text of several statutes (cf. Statute of Westminster I., in 'Statutes Revised,' London, 1870). I also notice that three or four lines further "solum ce q'il sunt" is rendered by "as they are bound." Unless some important word be missing in the sentence, it is impossible to guess how that meaning was arrived at. In my opinion, the text is entire, and it might be translated: "each according to his degree."

If we now pass to the enactments concerning the night-watches and the pursuit of malefactors (§ iv.), we find ourselves in presence of the same extraordinary errors. The phrase "en forein chief de la vile" occurs twice within the first seven lines; the first time it is rendered by "in any place out of the town," the second by "in foreign places of the town." Of course it means neither. "Forein chief de vile" is a not unusual expression which applies to the outskirts of a town. But the same sentence contains a more remarkable mistake. It runs as follows: —

"E qe nul home ne herberge en suburbe ne en forein chief de la vile, si de jour noun, ne uncore de jour, si le hoste ne voille pur lui respondre."

This plainly means that no one is to be admitted into any lodging-house situated in the suburbs or the skirts of a town except in daytime, and not even by day unless his host be willing to answer for him; instead of which the received version has

"and that no man do lodge in suburbs, nor in any place out of the town, from nine of the clock until day, without his host will answer for him."

Evidently the translator mistook the negative for a numeral. In the same paragraph "Vile en

terre" makes no sense; it should be "vile entere" (*inteyra villa*). Again, the word "daunger," the meaning of which has greatly altered since the fourteenth century, proved a stumbling-block for the translator, who rendered "e sans daunger le receive" by "and he [the sheriff] may receive him without damage," whilst the real meaning is that the sheriff will be bound to take immediate charge of the arrested person. In mediæval Latin the formula corresponding to "sans daunger" was "sine ulla difficultate et dilazione."

It would not be a difficult matter to pick a few more holes both in the text and the translation of this statute, but what has already been said is probably sufficient to convince the reader that it sadly needs revising. Nor is it the only one of its kind.

V. KASTNER.

AN OLD STORY.

THE reference to Valerius Maximus under the above heading in the *Athenæum* of February 4th should be lib. ix., not lib. viii. The mistake arose through the confusing practice adopted in Teubner's edition of printing "viii." for ix.

PAGET TOYNBEE.

THE RIGHT HON. CHRISTOPHER REDINGTON.

THERE are sometimes men not so brilliant as to be striking figures among their contemporaries, and yet so useful in their lives, and peculiar in their gifts, that when death lays a sudden hand upon them the same question arises in every mind—who can replace them? This is the question which every thinking man in Ireland has asked since the sad news of Christopher Redington's death came upon us with surprise. He was carried off in a few days by that dread disease appendicitis, which attacked him apparently in consequence of great suffering from sea-sickness during a stormy passage from England. An operation by the most skilful of Irish surgeons failed to save him. His official position as Resident Commissioner of National Education in Ireland gave him the administration of a yearly grant of 1,200,000*l.*, as well as the principal seat on the Board of Commissioners of National (Primary) Education in Ireland. For such an office his antecedents may be held to have qualified him, though he never had been an educator or a practical teacher. Unfortunately in Ireland, as, indeed, elsewhere, these latter conditions are rarely satisfied by those appointed to control education. His general antecedents were, however, curiously favourable for his peculiar position. Born a member of the higher landed gentry in the Co. Galway, where, very exceptionally, a sensible proportion of that class are Roman Catholics, heir to a picturesque property and to honourable traditions, Christopher Redington was sent—another curious exception for an Irish Roman Catholic—to Christ Church, Oxford. Although this education had no effect upon his creed, for he was ever a faithful son of his Church, it seems to have brought him into contact with Socialistic ideas, so that he emerged into life an advanced Liberal, and what we may call a Christian Socialist. These principles made it impossible for him to extract rents from his poor tenants, and his estate consequently became of little value to him. Hence he was ready to accept the official post, which brought with it a salary not adequate to the enormous labour and responsibility which it entailed. His character showed a curious combination of sobriety and enthusiasm, of taste for good society and yet of reverence for the verdict of the unwashed, an unflinching allegiance to great leaders, and yet an assertion of ultra-Radical principles. He was probably the only man of his stamp who maintained unshaken to the end his faith in Gladstone as a statesman. Fond of discussion, and always ready to expound and defend his views, he was lacking in humour, and often took most seriously the paradoxes

with which lively opponents assailed him; but his sweet temper, his transparent honesty, his great kindness, made him as great a favourite with his opponents as with his supporters. If he was not a typical Irishman by reason of his lack of humour, he was, perhaps, also un-Irish in his patience and conscientious diligence, which seemed to make his responsibilities weigh heavy upon him, and drove him to labour in his office from morning till night, sometimes even on holidays when the rest of his staff were absent. He died unmarried, and, indeed, of late years he probably had no time to think of so serious a step, though the ladies one met at his hospitable table were as refined and attractive as any in Ireland. Thus his qualifications as a Roman Catholic, a gentleman, a man of strict honour and probity, a diligent official—all these taken together make it almost impossible, especially if creed is to outweigh other qualifications, to find him a worthy successor. G.

Literary Gossip.

CANON MACCOLL has in the press a volume entitled 'The Reformation Settlement,' in which he discusses at considerable length, in their historical and legal aspects, the various questions raised by Sir William Harcourt's letters to the *Times*. He sets himself to vindicate the position of the historic High Church party, and discriminate between doctrines and practices which have a legal and prescriptive right in the Church of England and those which may be designated as modern innovations and excrescences. Besides discussing in the course of his general argument some important differences between the Churches of England and Rome, he has a separate chapter on the Anglican controversy with Rome.

MRS. RICHMOND RITCHIE'S introduction to vol. xi. of the "Biographical" edition of Thackeray's works, namely, 'The Adventures of Philip; and A Shabby Genteel Story,' which is to be issued next Wednesday, will contain a reproduction (hitherto unpublished) of a water-colour sketch by Frederick Walker of one of the scenes from 'The Wolves and the Lamb,' as it was performed at Thackeray's house at Palace Green. The volume will include twenty-four full-page illustrations by Frederick Walker and Thackeray himself, six woodcuts, and facsimiles of the MS. of the genealogy of Philip, and of two letters—one from Thackeray to Sir H. Thompson, the other from Sir E. Landseer to Thackeray, in which are two sketches.

An interesting copy of the second volume of 'The Chronicles of the Canongate,' published by Cadell of Edinburgh in 1827, has just been acquired by a well-known bookseller in New Oxford Street. The book at one time belonged to the author, and is remarkable by reason of the numerous corrections and additions in his handwriting, made at a time when a new edition, under the latest title of 'The Surgeon's Daughter,' was in course of preparation. It is found on collation that these corrections appear in all subsequent editions, though it is probable that they were specially made for the "Original Author's Edition," which appeared in forty-eight volumes between the years 1829 and 1833. However this may be, the fact of the volume being interleaved renders it possible that others were treated in the same way for an identical purpose, so that there

is here a wide field for enterprise on the part of collectors who are interested in such matters. It is worthy of note that, although proof-sheets and slips corrected in the handwriting of Sir Walter Scott are sometimes met with, this instance of an interleaved book being so worked upon is believed to be unique.

COL. FISHWICK has compiled a 'History of the Parish of Preston,' turning to account not only local materials, but a mass of unpublished manuscripts in the Record Office, British Museum, and Diocesan Registries. Family history has been made a special feature. Preston is the capital of Amounderness, which is one of the most ancient hundreds or wapentakes in England. The parish embraces over 16,000 statute acres, and contains within it various townships and hamlets of great antiquity.

AMONGST the families specially noticed (in many cases with detailed pedigrees) are the Astleys of Fishwick, Banastre of Preston, Barton of Barton Hall, Blundell of Preston, Breres of Preston, Breres of The Friars, Brockholes of Brockholes, Bushell of Preston, Chorley of Preston, Crook of Bank Hall, Cross of Barton, Elston of Brockholes, &c. The illustrations will include views of Preston (at various dates); the parish church in 1796 and 1852; ancient boats discovered during excavation of the docks; oak carvings, &c., formerly in Broughton Chapel; ancient font and west window of Broughton Church; facsimiles of earliest charters and of a portion of the Customal of Preston; Preston Old Market-Place; plan of the siege of Preston; maps of Preston (various dates); plan of Broughton Church before it was rebuilt; plan of parish church c. 1650, &c.

THE Corporation of Cardiff, who some time ago put the compilation and editing of their records in the hands of Mr. J. H. Matthews, will publish the first volume of the work before long. Besides documents in the hands of the Corporation, at the Record Office, and in the libraries of local families, Mr. Matthews has made use of the valuable collection of MSS. recently purchased by the Corporation from the representatives of Sir Thomas Philipps, of Middle Hill. The first volume contains, among other documents, the municipal charters; the Ministers' Accounts for the Lordship of Glamorgan from 1263 to 1550; the Star Chamber Proceedings; the Domestic State Papers, 1565-1666; the accounts of church goods of the diocese of Llandaff; Exchequer documents; and the Patents from 1488 to 1616. The edition, which is to be completed in three volumes, will be limited to 300 copies, and will be published by Mr. Elliot Stock.

THE health of Dr. George Mac Donald has improved since his return to Bordighera. He is able to take an occasional drive, but he is still much of an invalid, not able to listen to music or the reading of a book for any great length of time.

THE author of a successful tale that appeared recently is going to marry her publisher. If Sir Walter Besant's view of the "trade" be correct, as he declares it is, she ought, on the contrary, to regard the bridegroom as a thief and a robber—one who should be shunned and feared. How-

ever, authors have not yet universally adopted Sir Walter's estimate of publishers.

TOWARDS the end of March Messrs. Macmillan & Co. propose to issue in one compact volume at a moderate price a popular edition of 'Alfred, Lord Tennyson: a Memoir,' by his son, the present Lord Tennyson. Its appearance will thus be practically simultaneous with that of the two sixpenny volumes of Tennyson's poems which have already been announced.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"The catalogues of Messrs. Sotheby are so accurate in general that it is a surprise to find in their list of the books (to be sold by them) forming the late Mr. Delane's library, at least eighteen which were published after his death, and some as many as twenty years after it. I may add that most of the books Mr. Delane acquired during his lifetime are *uncut*."

WE regret to hear that Madame Ida Freiligrath, the widow of the poet, died last Monday evening at the house of her daughter, Mrs. Freiligrath-Kroeker, at Forest Hill. The deceased was a talented woman, and translated a number of English poems quite admirably into German, notably some of Mrs. Hemans's. When a child she had the honour of being noticed by Goethe, with whose grandsons she used to play.

THE *Pioneer* of Allahabad contains the following letter from Col. Tidy, who lately commanded the 1st Battalion of the North Lancashire Regiment at Colombo:—

"I spent the fifties at Littlethorpe, about a mile and a half from Ripon, and amongst the pleasantest of my recollections of a very happy childhood are the memories of the kindness I received from the late Archdeacon Dodgson's family. My sister and I were often invited to spend the day at the Residency, and the Misses Dodgson—of whom there were six or seven—vied in their efforts to spoil us. Our merriest times, however, were those at which 'the boys,' Charles and Wilfred, then undergraduates at the 'Varsity,' were at home for their vacation; and my earliest experience of firearms was being allowed to shoot with a saloon pistol at a blue flannel blazer cap belonging to the latter. Charles, however, was our favourite. After the lapse of over forty years I can distinctly remember our sitting spellbound for hours, one on each side of him, and listening with breathless attention to the wonderful stories which he related—illustrating them, as he went along, by the most comical sketches. It was even then a matter of chaff in the Dodgson family that Charles was quite insensible to the charms of any member of the female sex of over seven years of age. We migrated into Shropshire in 1861, and, with the exception of Wilfred, who settled near Ludlow, I never met any of the Dodgson family again. Directly 'Alice' was published Charles Dodgson sent my sister, who thought he must long ago have forgotten her existence, an author's copy of that delectable work, and our first exclamation on opening it was, 'What a pity Charley Dodgson didn't illustrate it himself!' Forty years ago I was, naturally, not much of an art critic; but I was, equally naturally, a better judge of the style of illustration which would most amuse a child than any grown-up person could be, and though willing to concede that—regarded from the 'grown-up's' point of view—the value of 'Lewis Carroll's' works has been immensely enhanced by Sir John Tenniel's excellent illustrations, I still adhere to my early opinion that had Charles Dodgson drawn his own pictures the latter would have found even more favour with the small fry than those of the eminent artist who portrayed the Mad Hatter and the Mock Turtle."

THE friends of the correctors of the press promise to meet in force at the ninth annual festival on the 25th inst., when the Hon. W. F. Danvers Smith is, as we said before, to preside. The report for last year, when Mr. John Murray took the chair, shows a considerable addition to the funds. The readers do wisely in increasing the value of their pensions rather than having a number of small amount. The third pension is to be of the value of 20%, and we hope that the fourth will be increased to 26%.

WE understand that Edward FitzGerald's version of the 'Rubaiyat' of Omar Khayyam will shortly be added by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. to their "Golden Treasury Series."

A 'HISTORY OF THE EAST KENT VOLUNTEERS' is to be published this month. The author, Mr. Igglesden, traces the development of the volunteer force in Kent from its inauguration towards the close of the last century, its revival just before Waterloo, its resuscitation in 1859, up to the present day.

MRS. S. FRANCES HARRISON writes from Toronto, objecting to the classification of her novel 'The Forest of Bourg-Marie' under 'American Books,' as it is concerned with the French Canada of to-day. We have no desire to ignore or undervalue the loyalty of Canada and Canadian authors to the British Empire; the "mistake" seems to be rather with those who conceive that the word "American" applies solely to the United States of America.

IN Mr. Heron Allen's 'Study of Edward FitzGerald's Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam,' about to be published by Mr. Quaritch, the object has been "to set at rest, once and for ever, the vexed question of how far Edward FitzGerald's incomparable poem may be regarded as a translation from Persian originals, how far as an adaptation, and how far as an original work." Mr. Heron Allen, who has with much difficulty possessed himself of all FitzGerald's material, thinks himself in a position to decide this question.

THE Swiss papers report the death of J. Schabelitz, the Zurich publisher, on January 28th. He was born at Bâle in 1827, studied there and at Heidelberg, and in 1848 went to Paris and took part in the revolutionary movements of that epoch. On his return to Bâle he undertook the editorship of the *National Zeitung*, but soon afterwards left for Zurich, and set up as a printer and publisher. After the passing of the German anti-Socialist law, to Schabelitz numbers of young German authors, poets, and politicians resorted for the printing of their works. When the modern literature of the so-called "Grüne Deutschland" could scarce find any German publisher, Schabelitz took the new realistic writers under his patronage, and Henckell, Mackay, and many others owed the appearance of their first works to his sympathy. The trouble in which he involved himself by bringing out the famous Arnim pamphlet, 'Pro Nihilo,' made him temporarily notable throughout Europe.

AMONG recent Parliamentary Papers we note Judicial Statistics, 1897, Part I. (1s. 11d.); Development of Commercial Interests in Germany, 1871 to 1898 (4d.); Intermediate Education, Ireland, Appendix

to the First Report (3s. 6d.); and a Numerical List and Index to the Sessional Printed Papers, 1897 (2s.).

SCIENCE

The Natives of Central Australia. By Baldwin Spencer and F. J. Gillen. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE reviewer is to be pitied who has to deal in brief space with a book so rich in novel information as 'The Natives of Central Australia,' by Messrs. Spencer and Gillen. Though they do not say so, they had to camp out among blacks for months in a temperature not under a hundred degrees at night. Sleep came rarely on their eyelids, as they were obliged to rise at a moment's warning, and follow the *mysta*, by night or day, wherever the rules of the Australian Eleusinia might call them. Their reward is a treasure of knowledge about the life and archaic rites of a singularly remote, primitive, and uncontaminated people. Now, dull, cruel, puerile as the rites of these tribes of Central Australia may be, it is certain that the rites of Sparta and Attica descend from similar mummeries. It is also as good as certain that rudimentary survivals in the society of Athens descend from a social order like that of the Australians (see, for example, Fison and Howitt on 'The Deme and the Horde,' *Journal of the Anthropological Institute*, 1885, pp. 142-68).

The ordinary society of Australian tribes is totemistic, that is, there are in each "nation" kindreds named after a beast, plant, or what not, who do not kill or eat it, and these kindreds must not marry within the kin. Descent is usually in the female line. Marriage within the totem is incest, and a capital offence. Among the tribes of Central Australia, on the other hand, at least among the Arunta and their neighbours, men and women of the same totem do marry. The totem name is derived from the totem of spirits haunting the place where the child is conceived. Men may eat (not largely) of their totem, and the chief rites are those of sympathetic magic, worked by each totem kin to secure a large supply of their own totem as food for the tribe. They themselves eat first of it sparingly when it comes into season. Descent is in the male line. Tribal myths even speak of a time when a man had to belong to a totem before he could eat of it. But this myth cannot conceivably be true. No man could support life entirely on a grub which is often out of season, any more than a trout could live solely on May-fly. Belonging only to one totem, and restricted for food to that, a man would starve. Now the question is this: the Central tribes exhibit strong magical associations with their totems and absolutely no social relations with them. Elsewhere usually the social relations are strong, regulating marriage, and the magical relations mainly, but not exclusively, consist of the taboo which causes the totem to be held sacred, and avoided as food. Now which arrangement is the earlier: that of most savages, in which the totem regulates marriage, or that of the Arunta, in which it is socially powerless, but carries certain magical duties and privileges? In

answering this we remark that the Arunta are not "primitive," for descent is "counted in the male line" (p. 70). Now Messrs. Fison and Howitt (who knew not the Arunta) demonstrate that, in Australia at least, descent by the spindle side is the earlier mode of reckoning, and they set forth the causes by which male kinship was introduced ('From Mother Right to Father Right,' *J. A. I.*, 1882, pp. 30-45). They remark that, as a result of the advance to agnation, "each clan would come in the end to have one totem, and one only." Now among the Arunta we observe this tendency: there may be "a particular local group of some totem," which is impossible in the ordinary conditions of totem-regulated exogamy. The exogamy of the Arunta is regulated by "class" divisions, not totemistic; in some districts there are four, in others eight, of these divisions. A man, out of eight divisions, may take a wife from one only. But what in origin were those "class" divisions? were they also not totemistic? "The probability is that they are all totems," say Messrs. Fison and Howitt. If this be so, the four or eight Arunta exogamous class divisions were originally totemistic, and are now restricted to the social aspect, while the other totems have wholly lost that aspect, and also almost lost their tabooed character, so that a man of one totem helps the others to destroy his own especial plant or animal.

For the reason given—namely, that the Arunta society shows an advance on matrimonial society to paternal kinship—we cannot look on their peculiar shape of totemism as nearest the beginning. We cannot use it, then, as a line towards the solution of the problem "How did totemism arise?" Mr. McLennan, the founder of the study, proposed no theory. That of Mr. Herbert Spencer depends on forgetfulness of the original application of words, and collides with the facts of female kin. Mr. Frazer has suggested that a tribe revere a particular species, and call themselves after it, because of a belief that the life of each member of the tribe "is bound up with some one plant or animal of the species" ('Golden Bough,' ii. pp. 337, 338). If so, the Arunta cannot be near the beginning of totemism, for they help their neighbours to slay their totems. Also, as Mr. Tylor says, "the idea that an exogamous savage under the maternal system abstains from killing or eating his totem-animal for fear of losing his life, while his wife and children, being of a different totem, put him daily in such danger by devouring it, seems a hopeless inconsistency."

Mr. Tylor, therefore, rather leans to Wilken's view: "The transmigration of souls is the link which connects totemism with ancestor worship." Thus, in Melanesia, a dying father says, "I'd be a butterfly after my death." His bereaved family, therefore, when they see a butterfly, say, "That is papa," and offer him a coconut. But under female kin this will not work out. Papa may be a butterfly if he likes, but his wife's children are *not*, and approach the butterfly in an unfilial spirit. We cannot derive totemism from agnatic society; moreover, the belief in transmigration is not consistent enough as a basis. Papa may be a butterfly after his regretted demise, but he is just as likely to be thought to go

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to Bullimah or Gumby, heaven or hell. Wilken's theory is thus peculiarly feeble.

In one way the Arunta may be rather like the original totemists. Male kin, acknowledged, tends to produce local clans with one totem, like Indian *gotras*. Now the originators of totemism must have lived in groups of one totem. A group of savages holding together must have said, "We are lobsters"; another group, "We are snakes." Perhaps, as Garcilasso de la Vega said, "They only wanted to make one differ from another"; only chose a name and a badge—perhaps a tattoo mark. It was convenient, and, above all, could be expressed in sign language, and thus signalled at a distance. Later, on reflection, men would make myths to account for the fact of these distinctions and their plant or animal names. Their ancestors, they would say (and the Arunta do say), were once actual snakes, lobsters, emus, or what not, and then developed, or were changed, into men. By this myth, made *après coup*, they explained to themselves the names of their groups. Thus came the idea of kinship with the totem; and many other myths, guesses at origins, would arise. How the exogamous prohibition not to wed within the totem arose, we do not know. Perhaps the elders drove the juniors to seek a wife abroad. Perhaps the totem, being sanctified in course of time, would be offended by choice of a wife of his stock, as by the eating of a plant or beast of his stock. If the brutality of some savage brides was considered, the totem might well be angry. The Arunta, arguing otherwise, have in each totem clan a special privilege to propagate the totem by sympathetic magic, for purposes of food supply. This is not peculiar to the Arunta, we believe.

Thus far we have written mainly to show the difficulty which surrounds speculation about totemism. That institution has little or nothing to do with the main lines of religious development. The place Mr. Jevons assigns to it is vastly too lofty. It flowers in mythology and art, and regulates marriage and descent. On the mysteries our authors write at great length, and supply copious materials for that much needed—but, of course, highly unpopular—work 'The New Aglaophamus.' That the Spartan and Cretan usages about boys (the *eispeles* and the *aiteis*) and the flogging rite descend from mysteries like those of the Arunta, the Hurons, and the Fijians and Wayo we cannot doubt, while a form of the Eleusinia was found by De Smet among the Pawnees. The amazing Arunta theory of inherited souls must be studied in Messrs. Spencer and Gillen, with the fullest information about art, trade, division of labour, and survival (as it seems) of "group-marriage." Our authors powerfully support Messrs. Fison and Howitt against Mr. McLennan. In fact, the anthropologist has here "a dreeping roast," as the Scotch say; while the general reader may amuse himself with the numerous and excellent photographs of blacks in every kind of wild disguise. Messrs. Spencer and Gillen have laboured ungrudgingly, and though they do split their infinitives terribly, we must thank them for minute precision and an almost entire absence of theory. Mr. Gillen has long been an official protector of the blacks;

Mr. Spencer professes biology in Melbourne; both are deeply initiated in the mysteries. The Arunta seem to have no religion; if they have, we hear nothing about it.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Feb. 2.—Lord Lister, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'Sets of Operations in relation to Groups of Finite Order,' by Mr. A. N. Whitehead; 'Note on the Enhanced Lines in the Spectrum of a Cygni,' by Sir J. N. Lockyer; 'On the Effects of Strain on the Thermoelectric Qualities of Metals,' by Dr. Magnus Maclean; and 'The Constitution of the Electric Spark,' by Prof. A. Schuster and Mr. G. Hemsalech.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Jan. 26.—Viscount Dillon, President, in the chair.—Mr. R. Blair, as Local Secretary for Northumberland, reported that on the recent demolition of the lighthouse at Tyne-mouth by the Trinity House, a number of carved and moulded stones had come to light, which there was reason to believe had been taken from the clerestory of the priory ruins.—Chancellor Ferguson, as Local Secretary for Cumberland, reported the discovery of a Roman altar at Bewcastle in October. It bears an inscription to Cocidius, a local deity. Three other altars dedicated to him have previously been found at Bewcastle.—Mr. H. S. Cowper in a paper discussed the theory propounded by Mr. Myres that the Senams of Tripoli were Roman oil-presses. This explanation had reached him too late to discuss it in his recently published book; but he had since had opportunities of collecting evidence, which could be divided into three parts:—1. Statistical: by making calculations as to the crop the district of the Senams would bear, and how many presses of a given size would be required. His conclusion was that the Senams were not too numerous if the area was almost entirely devoted to olive culture. 2. Constructive evidence, which was strongly in favour of the oil-press theory. 3. The evidence of Arab tradition and nomenclature, which at first sight seemed to favour an early religious use, for the natives not only call the upright triliths "idols," but ridicule any industrial origin when questioned. Mr. Cowper, however, although he had himself suggested a pre-Roman religious origin, thought that this could not be maintained. His opinion was that the devastation during the wars of Justinian brought the oil industry to an end, and that this district, being practically depopulated, was then occupied by some pagan stone-worshipping tribe, perhaps from the desert, and that these new-comers, entirely ignorant of the origin of these strange-looking structures, at once used them as objects of worship. The Arabs who swarmed over Barbary from the seventh century onwards found this idolatry in actual practice, and hence called them "idols," the name which they still bear.—Mr. Myres regretted that he had been prevented by various delays from publishing the oil-press interpretation earlier. He explained that the Senam sites were found fortified and on rising ground, because oil-presses were valuable property, not easily replaced. The same was the case with the Carian oil-presses. The second drain on the channelled stones described by Mr. Cowper is the exception, not the rule. The lines of ashlar piers within the enclosures range with the piers in the surrounding wall, and carry capitals. There is, therefore, no difficulty in supposing that they supported a roof. Woodwork was not employed because, as Mr. Cowper's argument showed, the country must have been almost wholly under olives, and because, as Herodotus says, Libya was in early times practically treeless. The Arabs were themselves stone worshippers until the Mohammedan reformation, and stone worship frequently survives among them. This makes it unnecessary to interpolate a Senam-worshipping people between the Roman and Arab periods; the Arabs themselves may have originated the cult.—Mr. Arthur Evans remarked that he had at one time accepted the view that the Tripoli triliths and "altar-stones" first described by Barth were akin to monuments like the triliths of Stonehenge or the sculptured triliths of Syria. Certain new features described by Mr. Cowper, such as the lateral perforation of the upright blocks, suggested doubts, and to arrive at a definite conclusion he undertook a journey into the interior of Tripoli, accompanied by Mr. J. L. Myres, to whom the oil-presses of Oaria and the Greek islands had already suggested a possible solution. They were able to elude the Turks, and, crossing a strip of desert, traversed the Tarhuna hill country, visiting a large number of sites containing the so-called "Senams." They found that in all cases these had to do with Roman oil-presses and magazines. In many places every part of the ancient press, with the exception of the woodwork, was *in situ* just as it had

been used. The great trilithic blocks had originally cross-pieces inserted into their lateral holes to give purchase to the end of the beam; the "altar" was simply a press-bed with a channel leading to a reservoir for the pressed oil, and the weight-stone, formerly attached to the end of the beam, lay beyond. Many of the establishments were very large, and contained several presses. They were frequently protected from the nomad marauders of the desert by a Roman *castellum*. Mr. Evans recalled the historical evidence that the Tripolitan region had been the greatest oil-producing centre of the Roman world. Leptis alone was fined 3,000,000 lb. a year by Caesar for the *oleum urbarium*. Severus, a native of that place, received such large contributions from the Tripolitan cities that after his death there remained sufficient to supply the baths and gymnasia, not only of Rome, but of other Italian cities, for some years. The whole of this now almost desert country must in pre-Arab times have been thickly covered with olive woods. In what till lately had been a waste country near Thysdrus (Ed Djem), in South Tunisia, he had been pointed out by the steward of a large French proprietor shoots from ancient olive stumps traceable in regular rows, which were believed to represent Roman plantations. The preservation of the triliths after the destruction of the olive culture was doubtless largely due, as their name Senam=idol showed, to the primitive Semitic stone worship which the Arabs had so largely preserved. In the same way on the Syriac coast Roman milestones frequently served the purpose of "Bethels," and were anointed with oil, as in the days of the patriarchs.—Mr. W. Gowland supported the view, and said that in Japan, where so many primitive appliances still survive in industrial processes, there is a form of press in use constructed on precisely the same principles as the presses of which the Senams were the uprights. In it the uprights are massive beams of timber anchored in the ground. The press-box, in which the material to be pressed is placed, occupies the same relative position to the uprights as the "altar"-stone does to a Senam, and the pressure is applied to it by a long wooden beam, one end of which is placed between the cross-bars of the uprights, and from the other end is suspended a number of large stones, each slung by a single rope. The number of these stones is varied according to the pressure required. He thought the stone structure of the Senams was undoubtedly due to the want of timber of sufficient massiveness for the uprights of the ancient oil-presses. The megalithic character of the structures naturally followed; it was, in fact, an absolute necessity, as it was only by the combined weight of the blocks forming the uprights and the capstones that the uplifting force of the long wooden lever could be resisted. He had calculated the amount of pressure which could have been applied in these ancient oil-mills, and had found that whilst it was ample for the extraction of oil from olives, it was insufficient for the treatment of oil-bearing seeds, such as rape, sesame, &c.

Feb. 2.—Viscount Dillon, President, in the chair.—Mr. Barclay Squire read a note on the arms of Henry Bost, Provost of Eton, 1477-8—1502-3, which have been wrongly depicted in the modern stained glass and other places at Eton.—Mr. W. H. St. John Hope read some notes on recent discoveries in the cathedral church of Norwich through the removal of the whitewash from the stonework of the nave. This had disclosed interesting traces of the ravages of the fires that consumed the church in 1171, 1272, and 1463, as well as some scanty remains of painted decoration.—Mr. J. Ward communicated an account of the recent opening of several barrows in the vicinity of Buxton, Derbyshire.

CHEMICAL.—Feb. 2.—Prof. J. Dewar, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'Maltodextrin, its Oxidation Products and Constitution,' 'On Attempts to prepare Pure Starch Derivatives through their Nitrates,' and 'The Staple Dextrin of Starch Transformations and its Relation to Maltodextrin and Soluble Starch,' by Messrs. H. T. Brown and J. H. Miller; 'Propylbenzenesulphonic Acids,' by Dr. G. T. Moody; seven papers on 'The Chemistry of the so-called Nitrogen Iodide,' viz. I. 'The Preparation and Properties of Nitrogen Iodide,' by Messrs. F. D. Chattaway and K. J. P. Orton; II. 'The Action of Reducing Agents on Nitrogen Iodide,' by Messrs. F. D. Chattaway and H. P. Stevens; III. 'The Composition of Nitrogen Iodide,' by Mr. F. D. Chattaway; IV. 'The Action of Light on Nitrogen Iodide,' by Messrs. F. D. Chattaway and K. J. P. Orton; V. 'The Action of Alkaline Hydrates, of Water, and of Hydrogen Peroxide upon Nitrogen Iodide,' by the same; VI. 'The Action of Acids upon Nitrogen Iodide,' by Messrs. F. D. Chattaway and H. P. Stevens; VII. 'Theory of the Formation and Reactions of Nitrogen Iodide,' by Messrs. F. D. Chattaway and K. J. P. Orton;—and 'Nitrocamphor as an Example of Dynamic Isomerism,' by Mr. T. M. Lowry.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Feb. 7.—Mr. W. H. Preece, President, in the chair.—It was announced that eleven Associate Members had been transferred to the class of Members, and that thirteen candidates had been admitted as Students.—The monthly ballot resulted in the election of M. A. Picard (Paris) as an Honorary Member, two Members, seventeen Associate Members, and two Associates.—The paper read was 'On the Waterworks of the Madras Presidency,' by Mr. J. A. Jones.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—Feb. 6.—Mr. W. Worby Beaumont, President for 1898, in the chair.—The Chairman presented the premiums awarded for papers read during 1898, viz., the President's Gold Medal to Mr. W. Fox for his paper on 'Reservoir Embankments, with Suggestions for avoiding and remedying Failures'; the Bessemer Premium to Mr. Sherard O. Cowper-Coles for his paper on 'Protective Metallic Coatings for Iron and Steel'; the Rawlinson Premium to Dr. J. C. Thresh for his paper on 'The Protection of Underground Water Supplies'; and a Society's Premium to Mr. G. Thudichum for his paper on 'Bacterial Treatment of Sewage.'—Mr. Beaumont then introduced the President for the present year, Mr. J. Corry Fell, to the meeting, and retired from the chair.—Mr. Fell then delivered his inaugural address.

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL ARCHEOLOGY.—Feb. 7.—Prof. A. H. Sayce, President, in the chair.—A paper was read by Dr. Gaster, entitled 'The Samaritan Scroll of the Law.'

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. United Service Institution, 3.—'Artillery in conjunction with a Force awaiting Attack,' Major E. S. May.
— Royal Academy, 4.—'Greek Architecture,' Lecture V., Prof. A. H. Smith.
— Aristotelian, 5.—'Darwinism,' Prof. W. B. Bottomley.
— Aristotelian, 5.—'The Conception of Automatism in Social Philosophy,' Dr. B. Bosanquet.
— Geographical, 8.—'Exploration in the Canadian Rockies,' Prof. N. Collie.
Tues. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Morphology of the Mollusca,' Lecture V., Prof. E. Ray Lankester.
— Asiatic, 4.—'Some Talks with the Babes in Persia,' Mr. B. Williams.
— Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—'The Lake Superior Iron Ore Mines,' Messrs. J. and A. P. Head.
— Colonial Institute, 8.
— Anthropological Institute, 8.—'The Arms of the Indian Frontier,' Sir F. H. H. H. H.
Wed. United Service Institution, 3.—'The French in Newfoundland,' Major-General R. L. Dushwood.
— Microscopical, 7.—'Exhibition of Objects shown by Multiple-Colour Illumination,' Mr. J. Rheinberg.
— Meteorological, 7.—'Report on the Phenological Observations for 1898,' Mr. E. Mawley; 'The Circulation of the Atmosphere,' Prof. W. M. Ivie.
— Society of Arts, 8.—'The Balloon as an Instrument of Scientific Research,' Rev. J. M. Iacon.
— Entomological, 8.
— British Archaeological Association, 8.—'The Fens,' Prof. McKenny Hughes.
— Folk lore, 8.—'The Tar-baby Story (Variants from Central Africa),' Miss A. Werner; 'The Powers of Evil in the Hebrides,' Miss Goodrich Freer.
Thurs. Royal Institution, 3.—'Toxins and Antitoxins,' Lecture II., Dr. A. Macleod.
— Royal Academy, 4.—'Greek Architecture,' Lecture VI., Prof. A. H. Smith.
— Royal, 4.
— London Institution, 6.—'Samuel Wesley,' Dr. C. W. Pearce.
— Linnean, 8.—'The Genus *Leontodon*, Gray, with an Account of the Branching Systems of the Order *Alecanaceae*,' Mr. G. C. Bourne; 'Some African Labiate with Alternate Leaves,' Messrs. J. H. Burkill and C. H. Wright; 'Report on the Marine Mollusca obtained during the First Expedition of Prof. A. C. Haddon to the Torres Straits,' Messrs. J. Cosmo Melville and H. Standen.
— Chemical, 8.—'The Absorption Spectrum and Constitution attributed to Cyanuric Acid,' Mr. W. N. Hartley; 'Hail,' Mr. J. H. H. H.
— Society of Antiquaries, 8.—'Excavation of a Roman Road in Rieheim Park, Oxon,' Mr. F. Haverfield; 'Report as Local Secretary for Gloucestershire,' Mr. A. T. Martin; 'Excavations on Silted River, British Honduras,' Mr. H. W. Price.
Fri. Geological, 3.—Annual Meeting.
— Royal Institution, 9.—'George III. as a Collector,' Mr. R. R. Holmes.
Sat. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Mechanical Properties of Bodies,' Lecture II., Lord Rayleigh.

Science Gossip.

A RÖNTGEN exhibition is to take place in connexion with the Surgical Congress, which, as we stated last week, will be held at Berlin in April.

THE well-known zoologist and geologist Dr. Franz Lang, of Soleure, has recently died, aged seventy-eight. He was for many years teacher of natural history at, and Rector of, the Kantonal-Schule, and also one of the presidents of the Swiss Naturforschende Gesellschaft.

THE *Revue Française*, which is specially colonial, in a leading article by Baron Hulot, secretary of the French Geographical Society, on African exploration in 1898, declares that when M. de Bonchamps was forced by sickness to return to Abyssinia (from a point elsewhere stated to have been within sixty miles of Fashoda) he left MM. Potter and Faivre, who reached the confluence of the Sobat and the Nile below "Sobat" in June, 1898. M. Potter was afterwards killed on his return to the

plateau. No reasons are given why this Franco-Abyssinian party, having pushed on so far, did not proceed by the Nile to the rendezvous at Fashoda, as arranged. In spite of Baron Hulot's authority we are inclined to discredit the detail of the story, presumably told by M. Faivre.

At the anniversary meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society, held yesterday (February 10th), the retiring President, Sir Robert Ball, delivered the address on presentation of the gold medal, which had been awarded to Mr. F. McClean. The President for the ensuing year is Prof. G. H. Darwin, and the honorary secretaries will be Messrs. F. W. Dyson and F. Newall.

FINE ARTS

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

The Deserted Village and *The Sensitive Plant* are oddly bracketed together in a simultaneous issue by Messrs. Dent & Co., similarly bound and similarly got up. The former has the advantage of a sympathetic preface by Mr. E. Rhys, with which we agree, except so far as regards the suggestion that "Sweet Auburn" was no doubt simply Lissoy. The volume is illustrated by a group of pleasing and suitable designs, the character of which would, nevertheless, have made Sir Joshua Reynolds (to whom the poem was lovingly dedicated) shudder. They are mostly very sweet and sincere, though much more "modern" than the 'Village,' and their author, Mr. H. L. Richardson, is quite worthy to illustrate Goldsmith. Than this we could not offer higher praise. It is his misfortune that, owing to the nature of the photographic mezzotint-like "process" employed in reproducing his drawings, not a few of them are greatly marred by an excess of blackness. Mr. L. Housman was much less qualified to illustrate Shelley's poem than Mr. Richardson to deal with Goldsmith's. These lovely verses, marked by excess of sensuous colour and suggestions more passionate than wholesome, are represented in their least beautiful phase by a lengthy figure of the poet morbidly contemplating the fountain and its flowers. The damsel in the garden disappoints us greatly, and her voluminous skirts try our patience. Another damsel in a bower is really quite out of the question. In short, despite some strength, quaintness, and grotesqueness in Mr. Housman's figures of Pan, either this poem is not to be illustrated without the employment of exquisite colours and choice tones, or Mr. Housman's temper does not suit his subject. 'The Deserted Village' would be more in his line.

Masterpieces of Dutch Art in English Collections. Parts III.—VI. (Obach & Co.)—This stately folio serves to illustrate the strange but almost true remark that there are more fine (not, perhaps, the very finest) pieces of Low-Country origin in this island than in Holland and Belgium put together. Messrs. Buffa & Fils of Amsterdam, whose agents among us are Messrs. Obach & Co., do something to confirm the saying by employing Dr. C. Hofstede de Groot to describe the choicest Dutch pictures in the public and private collections of England, while the accomplished and sympathetic hands of Heer P. J. Arendzen have etched some of the best of them. We have already praised parts i. and ii. of this remarkable publication; and now that a later and larger instalment is in our hands, we gladly testify to the continued excellence of the etchings and to the care, learning, and good judgment shown in the text. The author has had recourse to the latest authorities for his bright and sound biographical notices of the painters. Accordingly, we have never read a better account than that of Meindert Hobbema, of Amsterdam, painter, wire-gauger, and what not, whose masterpieces, now fetching fabuloussums, were produced

in the intervals of his official duties, and sold by him at exceedingly modest prices. The etching after 'The Avenue at Middelharnais' is a little, a very little, black; but it is otherwise excellent—firm, crisp as a Hobbema print should be, and sympathetic in rendering the effect of light upon that highly artificial and unpicturesque vista of a level road and its regimental lines of gaunt and polled elms. Almost as silvery as it could be is the print after Capt. Holford's wonderful Cuy's 'Dordrecht.' As soft, broad, and solid as the original masterpiece itself is the transcript of the Duke of Newcastle's 'Letter-Writer' of Metsu. Nor is the plate after Metsu's 'Reader' unhappy in preserving so much of the original's resemblance to a Vermeer; it fails, however, as to the dog, who is proposing to go out for a walk with his friend the portly marketing maid, leaving their mistress to enjoy the letter which has just reached her hands from her husband the skipper. Almost as warm praise is due to what is said about J. Van Ostade's 'Halt before the Inn,' a capital piece of a second-rate master; Jan Steen's admirable 'Grace before Meat,' which belongs to Mr. C. Morrison, a picture of unusual sentiment; and Lord Spencer's Rembrandt's 'Head of a Child,' now at the Academy, and formerly called a portrait of William III. when young.

Modern Book-Plates and their Designers. ('Studio' Office).—The late Mr. Gleeson White was thoroughly in his element when dealing with such a theme as that to which this "special winter number of the Studio" is devoted. It was, of course, not particularly difficult for him to do it justice, figuring as he did as a sort of prophet in the middle of a clever group of minor artists, who gave their often pleasing talents and elegant tastes to the designing of book-plates. He could hardly fail to find a great number of noteworthy examples, some of which merit warm praise, while there is none, except mere inanities, which cannot be looked at without pleasure. Among the prettiest things in this special number are the *ex-libris* of Mr. H. Nelson, the figure of a quasi-Florentine damsel reading while an angel looks at her book; Mr. H. Margetson's damsel reading a music-book; Mr. D. E. Wilson's girl reading at a window; and Mr. J. W. Simpson's pretty outline of another reading maid; while a dozen more charming types of the female sex artistic amply justify themselves in a decorative sense. But, apart from this, they are not particularly appropriate to the names, reputations, or peculiarities of the owners to whose books they are sometimes supposed to add value. We presume Mr. E. Norton, of Kingsclere, lives in the half-timbered house which figures on his book-plate, and, if it is so, there is aptitude in the design; but it is to be hoped that Mr. H. Bland, whose plate is the work of Mr. L. Housman, is nothing like the warrior in impossible armour who figures there. The Scottish Arts Club may be a terrible institution, but why need the lion on its emblematic palette be so extremely rampant within the peaceful covers of its books? We should have hoped that Mr. P. May had, like ourselves, had enough of the guffins and laundry drabs he so often delineates without putting one more of them in his own books. Perhaps, in an artistic sense, the finest of all the specimens before us is the 'Ex-Libris of Arthur Guthrie,' where Mr. Osipov has attested his allegiance to the genius of Jacopo de Barbari, and added his own more modern fire and vigour.

MINOR EXHIBITIONS.

ON Monday last the Pastel Society opened its doors to the public in the galleries of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours. It certainly justifies its existence, for more than three hundred pastels by French as well as by

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English artists, and of every kind of subject, were hung on the walls, and fairly surprised the visitors. Ten years ago there were two similar exhibitions at the Grosvenor Gallery, under the auspices of Sir Coutts Lindsay, which were decidedly interesting; but in no respects, least of all in their artistic merits and variety of subject, could either of them be compared with what the new association has got together.

The full powers of pastel painting have been but half recognized in this country; but the present exhibition is decidedly instructive. The one solid objection to pastel painting—that the result must needs always remain under glass—is of less force in London, where every picture ought to be glazed, than where glazing is to some extent a matter of choice. In general, works in pastel take a place between frescoes and oil pictures; and if rightly executed, they attain to the force and wealth of the tones and tints of oil, while the purity, softness, and limpidity of frescoes belong to them as of right. Above all, pastel painting knows no change. Given the protection of glass, pastels neither darken, nor crack, nor grow horny, nor lose their brilliance. Like oil and water-colour paintings, they must be defended against the sunlight; ordinary daylight is, however, good for them, as for the other processes.

The finest things in the exhibition are two life-size examples by M. J. Rolshoven, full of colour, deep in tone, luminous, and limpid. As for coloration, draughtsmanship, modelling, finish, and homogeneity, they are altogether admirable, and as designs they are of a very high class. The whole-length nude figure of *La Venere Bruna* (No. 295), recumbent on a white sheet, a gorgeous Chinese embroidery of blue, scarlet, and gold behind her, is so sumptuous that it is not easily forgotten. It illustrates pastel at its best. The Salon never contained anything of the kind more vigorous or more accomplished. Above it hangs a half-length, not less ambitious, but not so successful, called *The Chelsea Girl* (294), a charming English damsel in the costume of 1780. It shares, however, the technical success of its companion. A high place is also due to M. L. Dhurmer's *Femme au Collet* (2), an excellent design and a capital piece of figure-painting, which has the merit, too, of homogeneous tonality, and the *Femme au Miroir* (5) of M. E. Wauters, the well-known Belgian artist, which is noteworthy for the fine greys of its flesh, its massive modelling, and general harmony.—The "*Che Sara Sara*" (72) of Mr. W. Britten is a telling enough design. The carnations, however, are rather dirty, and suggest that the artist is not yet quite master of his materials; otherwise, this and several more of his contributions possess many charms of invention and execution.

Mr. G. F. Watts, who is a perfect master of all sorts of materials, accomplished in all methods, and always imbued with more or less poetical aims, was sure to succeed with a process so thoroughly pictorial; indeed, while pastel painting was quite out of vogue, he and the late F. Madox Brown were for many years frequently practising it. Accordingly the beautiful, masterly, life-size, half-length portrait of the late *Lady Mount Temple* (106) is a specimen of his powers in portraiture, and at the same time a noble picture. There is much, too, that is choice in the greys of his *Study* (111), and it is truly harmonious.—*After the Bath* (155), by M. Bernad, the well-known painter of contrasted effects of diverse lights upon draperies and flesh, is a life-size nudity, highly accomplished, powerfully treated, and especially distinguished by the treatment of the carnations and the frank and firm modelling. Unlike M. Rolshoven's superb nudity, *La Venere Bruna*, with which every one will compare it, "*After the Bath*" is rather a fine study than a picture.—Mr. Abbey, too, was bound to succeed as a pastel painter, so that his *Study* (164), while it compels admiration, does not surprise us. It is a luminously painted, well-drawn

seated figure of great value. *Miss Richland*, from "*The Good-natured Man*" (165), would win the heart of Goldsmith, and demand the praise of Sir Joshua.—Mr. G. H. Boughton paints better in pastels than in oils; indeed, his oil pictures have several of the peculiarities of the other method, witness the slight, dashing, and spirited sketches of life-size heads this Academician calls *Sisters* (174), which, though lacking anything like depth of thought or pathos, are almost charming. Better still, because more masculine and solid in most respects, is the picture of *Isobel* (176), a bust in black, good in colour, and richer in tone than anything the artist has hitherto sent to a London exhibition.—Very dainty, solid, and luminous, and spirited in its design is Mr. Bernard Partridge's *Souvenir de Chodowiecki* (161), a comely soubrette at a doorway. This painter's pastels are, like Mr. Boughton's, better than his oil pictures.—Mr. B. Shaw's *Mirror of Truth* (265), a fine and telling piece of work, illustrates his super-subtle mood and the somewhat bizarre turn of his fancy. A comely damsel, clad in all her braveries and in the warmest flush of her womanhood, stands reflected, as aged, sick, and decrepit, before a magic mirror which is placed in a dark chamber. This particularly "German" notion is not, of course, new, but it is powerfully expressed.—Mr. Walter Crane's *Iridescence* (310) and *Memories* (311) represent his mood and manner with singular aptitude and felicity.—Mr. J. da Costa has profited prodigiously by searching studies such as he had too long delayed entering upon when he set about drawing in red chalk the accomplished and spirited *Mrs. J. da Costa* (31). This success should encourage him to essay something more ambitious.—There is much dashing though unsound drawing in Mr. W. Rothenstein's sketches (86 to 93), but they do not evince any particular subtlety of insight, and they are not particularly solid.—On the other hand, Mr. W. Holman Hunt's life-size and veracious, though by no means inspired, head of *An Armenian Pilgrim* (98) is exceptionally solid; indeed, it is a little harsh and hard, and is more like an ancient fresco in distemper than any other work here, fresco-like as the majority of them are.—Mr. M. Fisher, in Nos. 99, *The Swineherd*, to 105, *Dinner Hour*, contributes some characteristically pretty designs, neatly and deftly delineated. His *Head in Red Chalk* (130) is most scientifically drawn.

Among the finest landscapes are Mr. G. A. Sartoris's *Evening on the Roman Campagna* (81), a picturesque and poetic example; a number of pastels by Mr. Whistler (201-206), which, however, present nothing new, and *A Mule Driver* (202); and works by J. F. Millet, Mauve, and Herr F. Thaulow.

The best of fifty-eight pictures at the Goupil Gallery, 5, Regent Street, is the life-size *Leda and the Swan* (41) of M. W. G. von Glehn, which attracted much attention at the Salon last year. As a nudity of very high merit, distinguished by its ardent realism, the finish and brilliance of the polished and solid carnations, and as an example of coloration, composed of the intense white plumage of the bird and Leda's flesh, it is a remarkable, though far from being an austere work of art. Next to this, thoroughly unobjectionable, and quite an admirable exercise in colour and light, is the same painter's *In a Garden* (9), a highly artistic study in the whitest sunlight. Botticelli's types, physical as well as technical, are most happily assimilated in M. von Glehn's *Rachel* (21). *All in White*, *Venice* (11), *What Songs the Mermaid whispers to the Gulls* (16), *Les Jets d'Eau, Versailles* (44), and *Portrait of Miss X—* (51) are all excellent in art and inspiration.—The decorative designs of M. L. H. Monod in the same gallery are at their best in *Panneau Décoratif* (27) and the same (28). *Merlin chez les Picts*

(35) is a landscape of unusual character and purpose by this well-known artist.

The Society of Miniature Painters clings to its unsuitable first floor at 175, Bond Street, and nearly three hundred works may be seen there under considerable difficulties. A large number—the majority, in fact—ought not to be shown at all; but some of them are charming. The following are conspicuous for possessing what constitutes the essential merits of miniature painting, viz., beautiful and delicate execution, sound drawing, and pure colours, a broad and harmonious coloration and tonality, and sound modelling. Without these verisimilitude is of no avail. Miss A. Richards's *D. Meinertzhagen, Esq.* (6), and *Margaret* (7), and Miss B. Greenough's *Cléo de Nérode* (37) are beautiful; Mrs. L. Townsend's *Rupert* (49) could hardly be better of its kind; Madame G. Debillemont-Charbon's contributions, such as *Trois Têtes d'Étude* (70), *La Petite Fille aux Raisins* (110), and *Les Vieux* (113), are also exemplary. In a better gallery we should no doubt find more to admire and more to deplore.

Fine-Art Gossip.

MESSRS. DOWDSEWELL will on Monday next open to the public an exhibition of water-colour drawings by Mr. H. Goodwin, representing "*Switzerland in Sunshine and Snow*." The private view occurs to-day (Saturday).—The same dates apply to an exhibition, at 2A, Melbury Road, Kensington, of water-colour sketches and flower pieces by Miss H. Thornycroft, as well as to water-colour drawings by Mr. W. Ball of "*North-East Anglia*," which are at the Fine-Art Society's Rooms, New Bond Street.

THE Bristol Academy opens its doors to the public on Monday next, and so does the Graves Gallery, Pall Mall, where Mr. H. P. Mostyn has collected his pictures and sketches in Corfu, Sicily, and Italy. The private views of both take place to-day (Saturday).

THE authorities of the Sun Fire Insurance Office were doubly happy in giving to Mr. Stanhope Forbes a commission to paint, for one of the panels in the Royal Exchange, a large picture representing an animated scene during the Great Fire of London, described by Pepys. The scene is a quay at Thames side, where, in the light of a stormy dawn that struggles with the conflagration, the half-timbered houses, the stones of the embankment, and the rough steps that lead to the water's edge stand out distinctly. Here are collected a crowd of men, women, and children eager to embark in the boats which have been brought alongside. Volumes of flame issue from casements behind the fugitives, among whom are a sick boy who is being carried to one of the shallops at the foot of the steps, several other children in great distress, and sundry watermen and sailors. The figures are life-size, well and boldly drawn, and marked by a sense of style such as is not often found in English pictures so large as this. The artist's touch is firm and telling, his light and shade massive and effective. The expressions are appropriate, and the attitudes are spirited and natural. The river's surface, shining brightly in the combined lustre of the sky and the burning town, is turned to good account. More might, however, have been made of the contrast of light and shadow. The process employed by the artist is the spirit-fresco of the late Mr. Gambier Parry. The picture will be in its place in a few days, and seems to call urgently for the protection of glass.

A SUFFICIENT number of subscribers' names have been received to induce the publication of Miss Frances Arnold-Forster's work "*Studies in Church Dedications*," or, *England's Patron Saints*. It will be issued during this year, in three large octavo volumes, by Messrs. Skeffington & Son. Miss Arnold-Forster is a grand-

daughter of Dr. Arnold, of Rugby, and adopted daughter of the late Mr. W. E. Forster.

The Coal Smoke Abatement Society, which is due to Sir W. Richmond's exertions, has made a successful start. The Earl of Meath, the Earl of Dunraven, Viscount Middleton, Lord Robert Cecil, the Bishop of Rochester, Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, and many others have joined the committee. Public bodies are prosecuting the most impudent offenders, and it is to be hoped that the smoke fog that makes our cities hideous may be abated.

In reference to the note in this column on January 28th respecting a collection of Millais letters "addressed to Charles Collins and his wife," Mrs. Perugini writes to say that this is an error, as Charles Collins had no wife at the time that these letters were written (1853-8). We should have said "Charles and Mrs. Collins."

FOREIGN papers say that the picture 'Saul and David,' on which the Dutch painter Joseph Israëls has been engaged for several years, has just been completed. The artist celebrated on the 17th ult. his seventy-fifth birthday in full vigour.

MUSIC

Joseph Joachim: ein Lebensbild. Von Andreas Moser. (Berlin, Behr.)

THE author of this interesting book claims indulgence on the ground that he is "only a fiddler"; but he needs none. The style is good, the contents of value, while the criticisms on various matters show good judgment. This picture of the life of the great artist has been written in connexion with the approaching jubilee of Dr. Joachim, who on March 17th, 1839, made his first appearance in public. His artistic career nearly coincides in length, therefore, with the reign of Queen Victoria. Works of this kind seldom offer profitable reading; they consist, as a rule, of some salient facts, various anecdotes more or less touched up, and plentiful panegyric. Herr Moser has grouped his facts well, and his stories seem to be genuine. His book, of course, contains plenty of praise; but as artists, writers, and critics, in one long chorus extending over half a century, have been proclaiming Joachim prince of fiddlers, greatest interpreter of Beethoven, and most sympathetic unfold of the genius of Schumann and of Brahms, it could not be otherwise.

Our author has done something more than sketch the life of his hero; he has given us an epitome, as it were, of the musical history of the important period from the closing years of Mendelssohn's brief career down to the death of Johannes Brahms. And this, owing to the many eminent musicians with whom Joachim enjoyed intercourse, has come about in the most natural way possible.

At the age of twelve (1843) he entered the newly founded Leipzig Conservatorium, and Mendelssohn from that moment until his death, four years later, manifested the liveliest interest in the talented youth—"my Hungarian boy," as he playfully called him; for in the announcement of Joachim's first appearance at Drury Lane, in 1844, it was written that "In the concert before 'The Bohemian Girl' the celebrated Hungarian boy Joseph Joachim will perform." Already in 1846 Joachim made the

acquaintance of Liszt, and played to him Mendelssohn's violin concerto, the pianist, then at the height of his fame, acting as accompanist. This new friendship led to a marked change in Joachim's artistic life. From the classic influence of Mendelssohn he passed under that of the new German school. He went to Weimar, where Liszt had just settled, and was there present at the production of 'Lohengrin,' and associated with young Bülow, the chief champion, after Liszt, of Wagner, and with Raff, secretary and amanuensis of Liszt. In 1853 Joachim heard Wagner read his Nibelungen poem before a select circle of friends, and the fact that he offered his services as leader of the orchestra when the work was to be produced well shows the new paths which were then attracting him. The chapter on Weimar describes in a vivid, dramatic manner the men by whom he was influenced, the thoroughly new musical atmosphere into which he had entered. In the early Mendelssohn days Joachim was already an admirer of Schumann, and in 1853 a friendship sprang up between the rising artist and the master whose career, unhappily, was so near its close. The sudden death of Mendelssohn and the tragic end of Schumann were bitter blows of fate; yet, as if by way of compensation, another master arose, and for a period of over forty years Joseph Joachim and Johannes Brahms held close fellowship. There is, by the way, a long and deeply interesting letter from Joachim to the author of this 'Lebensbild' respecting a Schumann autograph, viz., a violin concerto which is in his possession. Out of respect—nay, veneration—for the master, Joachim has refused to publish it. It contains some fine music—nay, at times flashes of genius—yet there are passages in it which bear only too clearly the marks of the fatal disease which destroyed first the mind and then the body of the great composer. A facsimile is given of the letter.

From Weimar Joachim passed on to Hanover, and in 1857 he addressed a remarkable letter to Liszt. For the many kindnesses shown to him by the latter he expressed deepest gratitude; but the music of Liszt had become repugnant to him, and he preferred to make open confession rather than preserve a silence which might be misunderstood. This attitude towards Liszt's music was the outcome of serious reflection. And his admiration at the same time for Wagner cooled down. He has been called an anti-Wagnerite; but, as Herr Moser justly remarks, it is scarcely the right epithet to apply to the Director of the Hochschule, who has had whole acts from 'Lohengrin' and 'Der fliegende Holländer' performed there, and who at the concerts has himself conducted the 'Faust,' 'Tannhäuser,' and 'Meistersinger' overtures, and also the 'Siegfried Idyll.' It was in 1868 that Joachim left Hanover and settled in Berlin. Our author gives many interesting details respecting the formation of the Hochschule für Musik, and of its progress and prosperity under the direction of Dr. Joachim. We read of the many difficulties against which he had to contend, and of the persecutions which he had to endure from those who differed from him in musical matters. For more than thirty years he has devoted most of his time

and his best powers to the Hochschule, and he is still as active and enthusiastic as ever. His devotion to Brahms, his early recognition of the master's greatness, and his perseverance in performing that composer's music in spite of either indifference or open hostility, can only be paralleled by what Liszt did for Wagner. Joachim produced in Berlin not only all the chamber music of Brahms, but also most of the choral and orchestral works. Herr Moser does not wish in any way to depreciate the services rendered to that master by Dr. Bülow; he reminds us, however, that Brahms had written more than fifty works of various kinds before the worthy doctor took any notice of his music.

Of Dr. Joachim's famous Quartet Party, of his magnificent renderings of classical works (especially those of Beethoven), of his triumphs in England, of his compositions, which are discussed in a free, independent spirit—of these and many other matters Herr Moser has much to say. Space, however, compels us to bring this notice to a close. His volume, which deserves to be widely read, will, no doubt, soon be translated into English.

THE WEEK.

LYCEUM.—'Tristan.'
QUEEN'S HALL.—The Bach Choir Concert.

'TRISTAN' was performed for the first time in English at the Lyceum Theatre last Friday week. To attempt such a difficult work showed courage and ambition on the part of the Carl Rosa management, and it is a pleasure to record that the performance was, on the whole, highly creditable. Miss Lucile Hill impersonated Isolde, and, though her acting was cold and unimpressive, she sang the trying music with marked intelligence and ability. She had evidently studied her part most conscientiously, and her singing atoned for any histrionic shortcomings. She was, as one can easily imagine, nervous, and this will probably account for a weak moment in the love duet. Mr. Philip Brozel was the Tristan; some of his singing was good, though his intonation was at times faulty; but he did not display the dignity mixed with tenderness which one associates with "the knight without a peer." His acting in the first and second acts was too much of a melodramatic order; he was at his best in the last act. Miss Kirkby Lunn, the Brangäne, gave a highly satisfactory rendering of her part. Her high notes were occasionally harsh. She, however, sang well, and her enunciation of words was far more distinct than that of the chief *dramatis persona*. Mr. A. Winckworth as King Mark and Mr. C. Tilbury as Kurwenal deserve praise. Mr. Hamish MacCunn directed his orchestra with marked skill. A critic could easily pick holes in the performance; for the orchestra was at times too loud, the instruments did not always blend well together, and some of the playing was rough. But limited rehearsals, and a conductor and orchestra comparatively new to each other, have to be reckoned as extenuating circumstances; at any rate, they induce one to lay stress not on the weak, but rather on the good points. The general result was far better than we had anticipated.

The programme of the Bach Choir concert

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at Queen's Hall on Tuesday evening this week was devoted entirely to the master whose name the society bears. Bach's music is justly held in high honour by musicians, and one would expect to find Queen's Hall filled on such an occasion, since the opportunities of hearing his choral works are indeed few and far between. On Tuesday not only were there empty seats, but many of those present withdrew during the performance of the 'Ein feste Burg' cantata. The reason of all this is, however, simple. The spirit which animated the Bach Choir when it was under the direction of Mr. Otto Goldschmidt no longer exists. The society was formed for the purpose of studying the Mass in B minor, and that work was studied year by year under the patient, enthusiastic direction of Mr. Otto Goldschmidt. Dr. Stanford's knowledge of Bach's music is probably as great as that of the late director, and his love for it may possibly be as strong, yet no one would guess this from his cold, stiff manner of wielding the *bâton*, from the rough, unbalanced style in which the orchestral parts are frequently played, or from the happy-go-lucky fashion in which, for the most part, the solos are rendered. If a conductor were to present Beethoven's or Wagner's music in the same spiritless, untidy manner, he would soon provoke his audience to wrath. The public which attend these concerts never grow enthusiastic excepting over some favourite artist, and if they hear anything which appears dull or uninteresting, they probably consider it the fault of the old master. They listen more as a duty than as a pleasure. Dr. Stanford may plead that he does his best with the time allotted for rehearsal. If that, however, be his excuse for shortcomings in performance, then let Bach be set aside until a more convenient season. His music is great and wonderful, and, in its way, it needs as much rehearsing as that of either of the composers named above. There were redeeming points on Tuesday evening. Some of the choral portions of the 'Magnificat' were well sung, and some of the movements of the Suite in B minor were well rendered. Miss Fanny Davies and Mr. L. Borwick played the pianoforte parts in the Concerto in C for two pianofortes and orchestra, and obtained their greatest success in the middle *adagio* without orchestral accompaniment. The movement was interpreted with marked intelligence and expression. The solo vocalists were the Misses A. Nicholls, E. Jones, and M. Foster, and Messrs. W. Green and A. Black. It must have been difficult for them, with organ and orchestra so far from each other, to distinguish what was being played. Surely, a pianoforte accompaniment, in the circumstances, would have been preferable. And with regard to the long trumpets and the sounds produced from them, all we can say is that we shall welcome the day in which artistic judgment prevails over antiquarian taste.

Musical Gossip.

THE Popular Concert programme last Saturday included Beethoven's Septet. It is true that the later compositions of Beethoven reveal heights and depths of which his first period only gives a faint forecast, yet in the productions

of that period we find a freshness and charm welcome, if only as a contrast to his more advanced music. Beethoven spoke slightly of his Septet when it no longer responded to his thoughts and feelings; but it still makes a strong appeal to youthful minds, and gladdens the hearts of all who understand that depreciation (natural and honest enough in the composer) is in ordinary men mere affectation. The Septet was vigorously rendered by MM. Kruse, Gibson, Clinton, Borsdorf, Wotton, Reynolds, and H. Becker. M. Ernst von Dohnányi gave an exceedingly fine performance of Beethoven's Sonata in A flat (Op. 110). In the first movement, however, the sentiment was drawn out here and there to excess. Madame Ruth Lamb, the vocalist, sang well, but her manner was cold.

THE Stock Exchange Orchestral and Choral Society offered no novelties at their second subscription concert held at Queen's Hall last Monday evening. Schumann's Symphony in B flat, always welcome on account of its joyous and genial character, was played by the amateur instrumentalists with notable care and understanding. Mr. Arthur Payne, who has proved himself an alert conductor, obtained also a satisfying performance of Tschaiakowsky's ingenious and effective suite 'Casse-Noisette,' and the Overture to 'Die Meistersinger' was also well played. Violin solos were cleverly handled by Miss Alice Liebmann; and Miss Mabel Berrey gave an attractive rendering of Mr. Arthur Somervell's 'Shepherd's Cradle Song.' The Stock Exchange Choir, conducted by Mr. Munro Davison, contributed Horsley's madrigal 'Nymphs of the Forest,' Evans's glee 'Beauties,' and other pleasing examples, in good style.

MR. CARL HEINZEN gave a violin recital at St. James's Hall on Tuesday afternoon. In Franz Ries's Suite in G, Op. 34, he displayed intelligence and refinement, and in Bach's great D minor Chaconne he revealed technical and intellectual powers of a high order. An interesting Sonatine for violin and pianoforte by Dvorák, Op. 100, was well performed, for the first time in London, by the concert-giver and Mr. Christopher Wilson. The work, based on negro themes, is fresh, clever, and attractive; it was written five years ago. Mr. Ernest Sharpe contributed some interesting songs by M. A. Bungert, and a pleasing setting of "Du bist wie eine Blume" by the American composer Mr. G. W. Chadwick.

A QUINTET for flute, clarinet, horn, bassoon, and pianoforte (Op. 38), by Mr. Edmondstone Duncan, was admirably performed on Wednesday evening at the Curtius Club Concert by MM. Fransella, Gomez, Borsdorf, James, and C. Weber. The work gained a prize of 20l. in 1897, the judges being Drs. C. Wood and J. G. Bennett, with Prof. Stanford as referee. The thematic material is pleasing, the workmanship refined and unlaboured, and the general character of the music thoroughly English. It is a work which ought to find its way to the Popular Concerts, although of late chamber music for wind instruments has indeed been scarce.

SIR HUBERT PARRY in his inaugural address at the first general meeting of the Folk-song Society, on Thursday last week, spoke of folk-music as among the purest products of the human mind, and of the "snippets of musical slang" of which so many modern songs are composed. He also alluded to the difficulties which beset the path of collectors of folk-music, and to the necessity for earnest and competent workers to prevent much precious material being lost. The lecturer frankly stated that English folk-music is not so characteristic as that of Scotland or Ireland, but declared that "we need not be ashamed of it." Mrs. Kate Lee's paper on 'Some Experiences of a Folk-song Collector' gave a vivid impression of the skill and judg-

ment needed in such a task; also of the genuine pleasure which it affords. Mr. Edgar F. Jacques offered some brief but interesting remarks on 'Modal Survivals in Folk-song,' part of the materials for which were supplied by Mr. J. A. Fuller-Maitland.

SOME interesting Beethoven autograph letters, music, sketches, and other documents from the collection of the late Mr. A. Thayer, the well-known biographer of the composer, will be sold by auction at Messrs. Sotheby's on February 18th. The first lot consists of the trombone parts of the choral portion of the Ninth Symphony, written out by Beethoven himself. At the end is added, "Aus Franz Schubert's Nachlass," with Mr. Thayer's initials. Score parts of No. 9 are mentioned in the catalogue of Beethoven's music and sketches sold at Vienna in 1827. Schubert may, perchance, have been their purchaser. Then there is a long sketch of the well-known song 'Kennst du das Land?' Nottebohm, by the way, makes no mention of any sketch of this song. Lot 23 is the complete text of 'Der Sieg des Kreutzes,' by J. C. Bernard. In 1815 Beethoven was requested to write an oratorio for the Vienna Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde, and Bernard was to furnish the text. It was not, however, until 1819 that the composer began seriously to think about the matter. Then there was further delay. In a letter of 1824 Beethoven, however, states that he is *certainly going to set to music* Bernard's oratorio 'Der Sieg des Kreutzes.' But he was soon occupied with other matters, and seems never to have even commenced the oratorio. The manuscript text contains changes in the handwriting of the poet and of Beethoven himself. The reference in the Sotheby catalogue to the 'Kreutzer' Sonata is an error: that sonata was composed long before Beethoven knew anything about J. C. Bernard. Lot 9 is a curious letter from Beethoven to Baron Zmeskall, commencing thus: "Liebster Baron Drecksfaher,—Je vous suis bien obligé pour la faiblesse de vos yeux."

THERE will be a special musical festival at Berlin on March 17th in connexion with Prof. Joachim's sixtieth anniversary of his first public appearance.

WE regret to learn the death at Berlin of Frau Amalie Joachim, the wife of the eminent violinist. She had a fine voice and noble style of singing. Many years back she visited London, and appeared at the Crystal Palace and other concerts.

Le Ménestrel of February 5th relates that Don Lorenzo Perosi, whose works are now attracting so much attention in Italy, recently paid a visit to Verdi, who is in Milan, and who appears to have complimented him on his successes. Perosi played to Verdi on the pianoforte the prelude of his latest oratorio, 'La Risurrezione di Cristo,' but what the venerable maestro thought of it is not recorded.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN.	Sunday Concert Society, 3.30 and 7, Queen's Hall.
MON.	Herr Dohnányi's Pianoforte Recital, 5, St. James's Hall. — Monday Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
TUES.	Newlandsmith's Orchestral Concert, 3, St. James's Hall. — Miss Ethel Barrs and Mr. Leonard Borwick's Chamber Concert, 3, Queen's Small Hall.
WED.	Grand Sacred Concert, 3, St. James's Hall. — Elderhorst Chamber Concert, 3, St. James's Hall. — Queen's Hall Choral Society, 3. — Royal Choral Society, 8, Albert Hall.
THURS.	Curtius Club Concert, 8.30, Princes' Gallery.
FRID.	Mlle. Elbenschütz's Pianoforte Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
SAT.	Saturday Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall. — London Ballad Concert, 3, Queen's Hall.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

HAYMARKET. — Afternoon Representation: 'Grierson's Way,' a Drama in Four Acts. By H. V. Esmond.

UNDER the management of the New Century Theatre Society Mr. Esmond has given to the world a play which, without the intervention of some similar institution, would scarcely have seen the light. Not

that there is anything in either subject or treatment at which decorum may wag the head or authority shake the finger. It is, however, so relentlessly cruel, and in a sense so true to human nature, that a sophisticated audience alone is likely to accept its conclusions, or even be interested in its development. It is a study in the manner of Ibsen in his most aggressive mood—the Ibsen of 'Ghosts' and 'Hedda Gabler.' It owes something, moreover, to Maeterlinck, and only leans to English art in a certain Dickens-like method of dealing with the comic characters. Judged as the production of a young man, it is a work of infinite—that is to say, indefinite—promise. There is little in the shape of dramatic accomplishment that may not be anticipated from one whose youth gives us a play of this class. Grotesque at times, and illogical and incoherent at others, undisciplined and inconclusive, it is none the less a work of singular power. Its characters, moreover, though not always convincing, are well balanced, and there is not one that does not furnish opportunities to an artist. Still, the whole remains so gloomy as to be almost repellent, and, while crediting Mr. Esmond with accomplishment, we are better prepared and more desirous to wait for a further production than to measure him by this.

Mr. Esmond's primary lesson is that beauty of physical form and other accessories of youth will triumph with a woman over intellectual and moral endowments. A lesson such as this is, of course, commonplace. Such is not, however, the treatment, which shows how powerless are we to fight against elemental forces. Two men are in love with the heroine, Pamela Ball. One of these represents moral worth, the other artistic aspiration. James Grierson is middle-aged and benevolent, a type of all that is worthiest and weakest in humanity; Philip Keen is a great musical executant, a violinist whose career has been blighted by the loss of a hand. To neither of these is Pamela willing to listen. She gives herself away body and soul to a handsome and stalwart young officer, and finds too late that he is married. With magnanimity more rare than convincing, Grierson offers to marry her and provide a nominal father for the child with which her womb is "ripe." The offer is accepted. No more successful than was to be anticipated is the device. Goldsmith has told us what is the only resource of a lovely woman who stoops to folly. In this case it is not the woman who dies, but the husband, and he dies in such fashion as to interpose an impassable obstacle between Pamela and the happiness which once more seems hovering within her ken. What is most gruesome in a story with which we have not attempted adequately to deal is that it is Keen, the baffled and ruined musician, who, with Mephistophelian cruelty, urges and goads Grierson into suicide, knowing that that is the only course to prevent Pamela from rejoining her lover and the father of her child. Of the man who has married her he is not jealous; but he cannot bear to see her reunited to the man she has deliberately preferred to himself. Truth and knowledge of human nature are shown in this Machiavellism, but human sympathies

are defeated at every point. Admirable performances were given by Mr. Esmond, Mr. Titheradge, Mr. Barnes, Mr. F. Terry, and Miss Lena Ashwell. Three more performances have been seen or are promised. It will be time enough to deal further with the play when we learn whether it will bid for a continuous run.

Dramatic Gossip.

'THE ONLY WAY' is the title at present bestowed upon the adaptation by Mr. Freeman Wills of the 'Tale of Two Cities,' the rehearsals of which are being conducted by Mr. Martin Harvey at the Lyceum. The reason for the change is found in the fact that the title originally chosen of 'Sydney Carton' had previously been employed. The severe and much-to-be-regretted illness of Mr. Robert Taber, who is laid up with an attack of pleurisy, prevents him from playing the part originally assigned him.

'WHAT WILL THE WORLD SAY?' having failed to "hit on," Mr. Terry proposes an immediate revival of 'Sweet Lavender,' many of the original exponents of which are available. It is pleasant to hear that Miss Maude Millett will reappear on the stage, and in the part, Minnie, in which she first established her reputation.

FROM the announcement that Mr. Norman Forbes will, in the forthcoming production of 'The Man with the Iron Mask,' play the doubled parts of Louis XIV. and De Marchiali, one seems to read that his man in the mask will be a twin brother of Louis XIV., as was held by the Abbé Soulaive. In this case the tragedy on the subject by Zschokke or the drama of Fournier may have been used. Miss Kate Rorke will play Louise de la Vallière.

MR. J. T. DAY'S comedy 'Intruders,' produced a few weeks ago in the country, has found its way to London, and been given at the Brixton Theatre, with Miss Fanny Brough in her original rôle. It will appear at the West-End so soon as an appropriate theatre can be found.

AFTER many vicissitudes since it was the accepted home of Robertsonian comedy, the old Prince of Wales's Theatre in Tottenham Street is to be converted into a suburban house, to be occupied by touring companies. A little energy and capital might have given it a chance as a West-End house. It is nearer Central London than any of the so-called "outlying theatres."

MR. JOHN DAVIDSON has undertaken to write for Mr. Tree a drama in blank verse. We shall be glad to witness another play from Mr. Davidson, but wonder why blank verse, with all the impediments it offers to author and actors, should be regarded as essential.

THE production at the Garrick of the promised novelty by Dr. Conan Doyle has been postponed until autumn. Before that period the play will probably be given in the country.

MUCH discussion has been heard as to what dramatist would adapt 'Cyrano de Bergerac' for Mr. Charles Wyndham. It is now announced that the task has been assigned to Mr. G. Stuart Ogilvie.

NEWS has been received from New York of the death of Miss Alice Atherton, a well-known actress at the Strand, the Royalty, and other theatres. She was the wife of Mr. Edouin, and made more than one decided success in parts written to elevate a singing chambermaid into a sentimental heroine. Miss Atherton had much brightness and some humour.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—M.—P. H. M.—T. R.—J. R.—W. S.—J. T. W. P.—M. S. S.—J. H.—P. & R. Co.—R. B.—received.

W. F. M.—Look in the 'Year-Book of Scientific Societies.' No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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